WOLVERHAMPTON
CHRONICLE

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TIME TO PARTY, SAYS MAYOR

THE Mayor of Wolverhampton wants to hold a reception for Wolves to celebrate their success after they were crowned League One champions.

There have been celebrations across the city after Wolves clinched the title after their 3-1 win over Leyton Orient and Brentford could only draw with MK Dons.

By Catherine Dalton

A party atmosphere is now expected at the last game of the season on May 3, where the team will be handed the League One trophy.

But it comes as Wolves confirmed the £40 million redevelopment of Molineux will remain on hold despite the promotion.

Chief executive Jez Moxey said any cash not ploughed into strengthening the team will be channelled into the £8 million redevelopment of the Compton Park training ground.

Benefit

He also urged fans to stay off the pitch at the final home game against Carlisle so as not to ruin the celebrations for the majority of fans.

It comes after the match on Good Friday against Rotherham saw fans running on to the pitch. The FA is currently investigating whether to take any action.

Meanwhile, key figures in the city say the team's promotion as Champions will benefit the whole city.

Mayor Milkinder Jaspal revealed he has written to the club to invite them to a civic reception in his parlour. He is awaiting a response from the club.

"In terms of the impact of this in the city, it means a lot," he said. "It brings a feel good factor to the city and it just lifts everyone a bit, not only individuals who follow the club but for the community as a whole.

"It also benefits the business community too. The likelihood is now after a promotion it will bring more fans and more supporters into the city to spend their money.

"It brings a good economic impact for the city. I have heard for every 5,000 supporters it has a £150,000 impact on the city."

There are currently no plans for an official celebration or parade but the first team squad will be at Jody Craddock's testimonial on May 5 with the trophy.

Wolves' clash with Rotherham on Good Friday drew a record crowd of more than 30,000 – its highest since 1981.

Rachael Heyhoe-Flint, vice president of Wolverhampton Wanderers, said she was 'thrilled to bits'.

"We can hope for a wonderful party atmosphere at the Molineux on May 3 for the last game of the season against Carlisle," she said.

"I'm really pleased for the fans and for the team."

Leader of Wolverhampton City Council Roger Lawrence said it was 'thoroughly deserved'.

Champions now target new record

Wolves players arrive back at Molineux as they celebrate being League One champions

WOLVES have been crowned champions of League One - and players said they hope their success had restored pride in the club.

Kenny Jackett's men took the title after a 3-1 win over Leyton Orient, while rivals Brentford could only muster a draw against MK Dons.

Wolves fans and players were celebrating on the coach home from the game after news filtered through of a late equaliser in Brentford's game, which meant they could no longer catch the Molineux men.

The trophy is expected to be presented to the team at the final game of the season against Carlisle at Molineux on May 3.

Coach Tony Daley posted a video online of the players celebrating, while many of the players took to social media to celebrate.

Richard Stearman, who started the scoring at Orient, tweeted: "Another great day made even better with a goal! Amazing support again. Hope we have restored some pride."

Michael Jacobs posted: "Thanks for all the messages what a day," and Nouha Dicko tweeted: "Champions. So proud of my team. Thanks everyone who supported even in League One."

Keeper Aaron McCarey said after the game: "Everyone was in the coach looking at the scores and when they said they were going to MK Dons, we were all on edge.

"It's been a brilliant job by everyone because it's been a tough couple of years for the club. There are still two games left and still six points available, so we want to finish off with the record.

"At the start of the season we wanted to get promoted. After we did that we wanted to be champions and now we want to break that record.

● Jackett plea – Page 55

College in 'learn as you earn' scheme

TWENTY TWO apprentices will be recruited at a Wolverhampton college as chiefs invest in its workforce.

The plan is for the new recruits to work across the City of Wolverhampton College's sites at Paget Road, Wellington Road and Metro One, Bilston.

The college has pledged to recruit the 22 apprentices this summer to work in a range of departments, including estates, student services and technology.

Among the apprenticeships on offer are those in hairdressing, beauty, customer services, business admin, construction and IT.

Develop

The scheme will allow those involved to 'learn as they earn', which means they combine training on the job and receive a work-related qualification.

College principal Mark Robertson said: "The apprenticeship scheme is a great way to help young people to start their careers and to develop the skills and knowledge."

The vacancies will be advertised on the Apprenticeship Vacancy Matching Service at www.apprenticeships.org.uk and on the college's website www.wolvcoll.ac.uk

New plea on park stabbing

POLICE have issued a fresh appeal for information almost a month after two men were stabbed in Wolverhampton's West Park.

The victims, aged 34 and 33, were taken to hospital after the attack on March 23. It is believed four men had approached a group who were sitting in the park and stole a bike.

When the victims tried to get the bike back, they were stabbed. Officers have been trawling CCTV footage. Anyone with information is urged to call police on 101.

Payouts of £2m for teachers in one year

MORE than £2 million in compensation has been paid out to teachers in the West Midlands in a year – including more than £113,000 for one who was injured breaking up a fight between pupils.

The NASUWT union said it had been successful in securing payouts of more than £20m for its members nationally in 2013, including £2,040,094.30 for teachers in the West Midlands.

The biggest payout was £113,905 for a female secondary school teacher who sustained serious injuries after intervening in a fight.

Balcony

Union bosses said the 33-year-old had tried to break up the situation verbally but as the two pupils were in a high balcony area she felt she had no other option than to get physically involved. She was assaulted by both pupils, suffering injuries to her face, head, neck, right arm and shoulder.

She developed fibromyalgia and severe post-traumatic stress disorder and was unable to return to work. Other successful claims were for unlawful deduction of wages, unfair dismissal, breach of contract, constructive dismissal and discrimination.

Boy arrested after brawl

A 15-year-old boy has been arrested following disorder in Wolverhampton on Saturday night in which two people were injured.

The teenager was arrested on suspicion of assault and possession of an offensive weapon following the trouble at around 8.10pm.

The boy was released on bail. A gang of 15 teenagers was seen fighting outside the Britannia Hotel.

Witnesses are urged to call 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

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Historic tennis club nets ace refurb

AN historic tennis club is undergoing a renovation and Wolverhampton Wanderers are footing the bill.

Linden Lea Tennis Club, which dates back to 1934, will be revamped as part of Wolves' £50 million Compton Park training ground redevelopment.

A new car park and club house will also be built after negotiations with Wolves were completed. The new development will also boast floodlit courts. Bosses said the club would be given a new lease of life.

Work, expected to cost thousands of pounds, has already started and should be completed by late summer. Member David Hellyar said he and the club's other 100 members were extremely grateful to Wolves for agreeing to fund the move.

It will see the court move from next to where the old university buildings at Compton Park were, to by the club's new training ground complex.

"It couldn't be better from our point of view," the 69-year-old Finchfield resident said. "We're hoping it will swell our numbers of young members."

The club currently has two floodlit courts, which will now become three. And a wooden clubhouse with no water or gas will become a purpose built brick-based building with fully functioning utilities. A new car park will also be introduced.

Mr Hellyar added: "It was agreed with Redrow and the school that the tennis club would be relocated.

"The new clubhouse will be bigger than the current one and it's a big boost to the club."

Under pressure A&E is set for busiest month

THE under-pressure A&E unit at Wolverhampton's New Cross Hospital is in line for its busiest-ever month as patients flood through the doors, bosses have said.

An average of 326 people a day are visiting the unit at Wolverhampton's New Cross Hospital. Bosses say they cannot put the sudden increase – which follows on from March being the hospital's second busiest ever – down to one single factor.

It comes after a brand new £30million emergency centre on the Wednesfield site was approved by trust bosses.

Traditional winter pressures seen by hospitals up and down the country have continued apace at New Cross into the spring. So far in April 4,563 patients have visited A&E.

That equates to 326 a day, which is in line to beat the record set last July when an average of 323 patients a day visited A&E, totalling 10,018.

Tribute

On March 31 a record was nearly set for the hospital's busiest-ever day when 379 patients were seen in A&E – just five short of the all-time high set in July 2012.

Chiefs at the hospital have paid tribute to nursing staff and doctors who, despite last month's busy period, still saw 96.3 per cent of patients within four hours. The national target is 95 per cent.

Tim Powell, deputy chief operating officer at the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust, said: "We had really good performance from staff in terms of the four-hour standard.

"Overall in March, including data from our walk-in centre, we saw 97.25 per cent of patients within four hours."

The new A&E will be ready by November 2015.

21 Greek nurses are recruited

NURSES from Greece and Italy are being hired by bosses at Wolverhampton New Cross Hospital as a controversial recruitment drive gathers pace.

The move will see 170 foreign nurses taken on as part of a £3.4million project.

Bosses have also received applicants from Spain, Portugal, Poland and Romania.

They originally said they would hire from India, China and the Philippines because of a shortage of qualified nurses in the UK.

This soon changed to southern Europe because of potential language issues.

Faster

Then New Cross chiefs said that the majority would instead be recruited from south Ireland, for a potentially faster process.

They cited that the standard and training of midwives in Greece was not up to standard, due to a high rate of Caesarean births in the country.

However it seems at least some of the hired staff will come from Greece, with jobs offered to 21 people and a further 12 in Italy.

The nurses will be paid £21,500.

Wilf's love for girl next door

Diamond celebrations for Wilf and Doreen Beddow, from Bilbrook

SHE was his 'girl next door' and they are now celebrating their diamond wedding anniversary.

Former neighbours Doreen and Wilf Beddow met for the first time when she was around nine, but little did she know they would spend the next 70 years together.

Mr Beddow, now 82, invited his future wife along to the cinema when she was 15. They are now celebrating 60 years of marriage. Mrs Beddow, 80, said: "We lived next door to each other so that was how we knew each other and then when I was 15 he asked me to go to the pictures with him. He went off to do his two years national service and when he came back we got engaged and that was it then."

The couple, of Wesley Road, Bilbrook, were married at St Matthew's Church on Willenhall Road. They have two children and four grandchildren.

Mr Beddow worked at Steelway on Monmore Green, while Mrs Beddow worked in the kitchen at Sainsbury's.

Work to link city to £60m new store

WORK to create a pedestrian link to connect Wolverhampton city centre with a new £60 million supermarket is now under way.

It is hoped the new walkway will help boost footfall in the city centre as shoppers head to the new Sainsbury's store in Raglan Street. It comes just a day after it was announced recruitment had started for 340 new jobs at the store.

Controlled

Work will see a new controlled crossing built across Ring Road St Mark's, starting in Peel Street car park. It is expected to continue until May 2. The area will also be landscaped and resurfaced.

Supermarket giant Sainsbury's is funding the road improvement work. Tim Johnson, Wolverhampton city council's strategic director for education and enterprise, said it was a significant part of the development.

"Sainsbury's will attract many new shoppers to the store and the pedestrian link will provide them with a quick and convenient walkway into the markets and the wider city centre," he said.

● New jobs – Page 4

Blakemore in £150m deal

BLACK Country food delivery group Blakemore has won a £150m deal to supply UK Butlins holiday resorts and Haven caravan parks.

The five-year deal will see another 20 workers recruited at its Darlaston base and more than £1 million spent on new vehicles. Blakemore Foodservice is the delivery arm of Willenhall's A F Blakemore & Son cash-and-carry, delivery and SPAR stores group.

A family business, the group currently employs more than 7,900 people and has a turnover in excess of £1.2 billion.

Bantock survey

PEOPLE are reminded to have their say over how a museum should be run.

Surveys about Bantock House Museum, Wolverhampton can be completed as chiefs look for ways to run it more effectively. It is on the city council's website and runs until May 2.

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Students to gear up for skills shortage

A £5m engineering 'studio' is being planned for a school in Codsall to train students up for new jobs with the likes of Jaguar Land Rover.

Codsall Community High School is working with the luxury car maker, which is set to open its £500 million engine plant at the i54 business park later this year.

But the school has also been revealed to be bidding for Government funding to create a specialist studio for the engineers of the future, able to take jobs with the likes of aerospace giants such as Moog or UTC as well as JLR.

Concerns

Aerospace engineering is a big employer in Wolverhampton. It comes amid concerns of a shortage of skills across the Black Country in modern engineering.

If it is approved by the Department for Education, the school could cater for up to 75 students a year to take engineering courses at GCSE and A Level.

Details of Codsall High's bid were revealed in a debate in Parliament by South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson. He said: " Such a studio will concentrate on training the engineers and designers of the future."

Vintage fun at family day

A MEDIA centre will be hosting a family fun day.

Organised by Blondies Vintage Events and The Flying Flea, the event will see the Light House's courtyard in Wolverhampton turned into a market area, with stalls selling vintage clothes, accessories, homeware, crafts and jewellery.

Live music will be played throughout the day on May 24 and refreshments will also be available from street food vendors and a licensed bar. There will be a children's craft area and facepainting. Entry £1 for adults and children free.

Pubs sold off

AROUND 40 per cent of pubs sold by a Midlands property firm in 2013 were used for something else.

Fleurets' Birmingham office figures showed 60 per cent did remain as pubs. The 40 per cent were sold for other uses, most commonly residential or shops.

Cleaning staff to go in sweeping council cuts

CLEANING staff at Wolverhampton City Council are the latest to be axed as the cash-strapped authority wields the axe as part of sweeping budget cuts.

Bosses have announced plans to save £100,000 by getting rid of 15 cleaners.

Those that are left will be cleaning council offices less regularly as a result.

Staff will also be asked to get rid of their own rubbish to make up for the shortfall.

It forms part of £123million worth of savings the local authority will make by 2019, with 2,000 jobs being lost along the way.

The cleaning cuts - termed as 'office cleaning savings' - will see 15 people lose their jobs. If approved the proposal will come into effect in 2015/16 and see some buildings operate with 'reduced cleansing regimes', according to a council report.

It adds: "Staff expectations will need to adjust to less frequent cleansing regimes and taking responsibility for managing their waste to central collection points."

Opposition Conservative Councillor Wendy Thompson claimed the cuts were a 'consequence of crazy financial mismanagement.' She added: "These are practical, important jobs that will be lost. They are good, conscientious staff and they're not being replaced. These job cuts are devastating, wherever they come in the organisation.

"It's one big team and the cleaners are crucial to the team effort."

Earlier this year chiefs issued a stark warning that without further cuts the authority would go insolvent in a year and would not even be able to empty the bins or care for the elderly.

Conservative councillor Barry Findlay questioned why staff who would keep their jobs would have to put up with a less clean environment.

"It's important that people have an environment they feel comfortable in," he said. "We need to look at the top end of the salary range and not have the burden falling on people who are less well paid but doing a very good and important job."

Drug alert after death of 'perfect partner' aged 26

HE was a young entrepreneur making his name in the fashion industry and has been described by his partner as 'in one word, perfect'.

Thomas Walton, aged 26, died after taking cocaine on a night out with friends, leading a senior coroner to warn of the dangers of using illegal drugs.

His family paid tribute to him at an inquest, together with his partner and friend who had been out with him in Wolverhampton city centre on the night he died.

Aimée Harper, his partner, said Mr Walton, from Wolverhampton, had promised her he would never take the class A drug. She said his passions were football, betting on football, music, clothing and his son Lewis.

Tribute to Thomas Walton

Clothing

His close friend Stuart Davies told how cable data engineer Mr Walton – known to friends as Tom, or Wooly – had recently begun promoting his own streetwear brand, named Bored Of Wisdom Clothing.

The pair had been drinking at the Quadrant Lounge and Yates's last July, the Walsall hearing heard.

Mr Davies, who was on a visit from Wiltshire, said they had been drinking Jägerbombs – shots of Jägermeister mixed with energy drinks. On their way back to the flat Mr Walton shared with Ms Harper, in Newbridge Mews, Tettenhall Road, Tettenhall, they stopped at a cash-point, where they began joking with a Manchester City fan.

The man gave Mr Walton a black pouch, which Mr Davies believed contained cocaine. The two friends went back to Mr Walton's home, where they stayed up until around 5.30am.

Ms Harper had not long since returned from work when they arrived back. She told the inquest: "He [Mr Walton] was laughing and joking." But Mr Walton then told her he felt sick, so she told him to wait in the bathroom while she fetched him some water. She said: "I just assumed it was from alcohol. He promised me that he'd never do it [cocaine]."

Mr Walton, whose address was listed as Cedar Grove, Codsall, fell asleep, propped up by a sofa. At around 8am, as Ms Harper was preparing for work she tried to wake him but discovered his body was cold.

Toxicology tests found traces of the drug in his blood but the concentration was relatively low. Senior Black Country coroner Robin Balmain gave the medical cause of death as sudden cardiac death due to cocaine-induced toxicity and recorded it as accidental.

"The message that comes out of this case is that if you take illegal drugs you are in danger, because you do not know what is in them."

Doreen Banks has her first hole-in-one after 50 years at Oxley Park Golf Club

Doreen at 85 hits first hole in one

FOR half a century she has played her beloved game of golf and for decades, 85-year-old Doreen Bank had still to card that elusive hole-in-one.

That was until earlier this month when the pensioner sized up a tee shot at Oxley Park Golf Club in Wolverhampton and managed the feat on the course's par-three 110-yard sixth hole.

Such a shot would bring immediate celebrations. But not for Mrs Banks, who lives in Finchfield, who admits her poor eyesight had her thinking she had lost her ball.

Celebrations

She said: "The green is elevated and with my failing eyesight I can't see that distance, so when we got to the green I thought I may have lost my ball - until playing partner Pat Rogers found it in the hole."

Doreen was more than happy to take part in the traditional celebrations back in the clubhouse for her achievement.

She said: "My husband Colin, who died 12 years ago, played golf at Oxley Park for over 40 years without ever getting a hole-in-one and I am sure that he would have been very proud."

NEWS in brief

City to host first teenage market

WOLVERHAMPTON will host its first ever 'teenage market' next month.

Young entrepreneurs and performers are being sought for the event on May 17. Dudley Street will host the market, which will give young traders and performers a chance to showcase their skills and wares.

To have a go at trading or performing at the event contact admin@lsdpromotions. People can also call 01384 877336.

Stall sponsors are also needed.

Clary boosts sale of panto tickets

TICKET sales for this year's panto at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre have soared after Julian Clary was unveiled as star.

Theatre bosses said sales are already more than 500 seats ahead of last year, which was itself a record breaking show.

Clary will be Dandini in Cinderella which runs from December 6 to January 18. The 2012 Celebrity Big Brother winner was unveiled as the show's star last month and another cast announcement is due.

Museum chance of pilot's view

PEOPLE will get a pilot's eye view of some interesting and unusual planes at the RAF Museum in Cosford, near Wolverhampton, this month.

The open cockpit evening will allow visitors to get up close with several of the museum's aircraft, including jet fighters, transport craft and special research airframes. A limited number of places will be available next Tuesday (6).

Wulfrun to host Cockney knees up

MUSIC hall legends Chas n Dave have announced they will be bringing 'a right old cockney knees up' to the Black Country later this year.

The duo - who are famed for their their odes to working class culture including Rabbit, Margate and Ain't No Pleasing You - are set to play the Wulfrun Hall on September 19.

New homes plan

PLANS to knock down a property and replace it with three new homes have been lodged.

The development is for Greenhill in Wombourne. An application has gone to South Staffs Council.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

ONE report this week shows Britain has fewer hospital beds than most European countries. Another report reveals that one patient in 16 picks up an infection in hospital. So even if we had more NHS beds, who'd want to stay in them?

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IT IS claimed that the number of food parcels given away by food banks is rising towards one million. They have grown under the Coalition, just as they did under the last Labour government. They will continue to grow under whichever party forms the next government. Food banks are part of the 21st century political landscape and it is almost impossible to question their motives or their value without sounding hard-hearted. For the Tories, the only credible and acceptable response to food banks is to embrace them as part of the Big Society, to acknowledge that no welfare system will ever be 100 per cent efficient and to congratulate people who give their time and gifts to help those who slip through the welfare net. As long as cash and food donations are given to food banks freely by individuals and companies, no-one should object. And if Labour politicians are daft enough to brandish the rise of food banks as a club to whack the Tories, what will they be saying in 2020 when Labour has been in power for five years and the food banks are just about to hand over their two millionth parcel?

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THE Daily Mirror used a poignant front-page picture of a sobbing child to illustrate the desperation of families using food banks. It now emerges that the picture was taken years ago. The child is an American kid, the daughter of a photographer, who had been upset by losing an earthworm. There was absolutely no connection between this anguished child and food banks. Does it matter? I hope not. Newspapers and magazines tend to use generic, unidentified images when it would be wrong to identify an individual. I once worked on a paper whose photo library included an image of an old lady reading by the light of a candle. We used that image time after time to illustrate features on everything from loneliness in old age to burglary, adult literacy, dementia and power cuts.

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A FRIEND'S car wouldn't start. We left it a while and tried again, with the accelerator fully depressed. It started first time. Conclusion: the engine was flooded. Later, the car wouldn't start again. We removed the filler cap. It started first time. Conclusion: it was starved of petrol by a vacuum in the fuel tank. A few hours later the car broke down and even the AA couldn't fix it. Conclusion: It's a car. Cars have minds of their own. Especially if there's a bank holiday coming.

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THIS week's Marine Conservation Society report goes into ecstasies about the superb water quality at hundreds of British beaches. But those measurements were taken last year during an unusually long dry spell. After this winter's deluge, with rivers raging, cesspits overflowing and half of Somerset knee-deep in liquid sewage for weeks on end, anyone care for a paddle?

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TAKE a look around at your fellow Brits as the holiday season begins and the flesh goes on display. Do we look like a nation following healthy-eating advice? Or do we look more like a collection of beached whales, occasionally dragging ourselves to the hot-dog stand for another cholesterol fix? If you believe research published yesterday, a drop in the number of heart attacks and strokes is linked to a 15 per cent reduction in the amount of salt Brits consume. But isn't it far more likely to be the result of a massive NHS programme? Over the past 20 years millions of Brits have been diagnosed with high blood pressure by their GPs and given pressure-reducing pills. I bet that's having far more effect than any alleged change of diet. For the time being, I will take the salt connection with a pinch of, er, pepper.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Hundreds of jobs in store at £60m site

ALMOST 350 extra jobs were announced for Wolverhampton as Sainsbury's launched a recruitment drive for its new multi-million pound store.

The supermarket giant is building a £60million store in Raglan Street near the city centre.

And with the supermarket due to open in just two months time, Sainsbury's revealed it would be taking on new staff. It also announced that 192 employees from its current city centre store in St George's Parade will move over to Raglan Street.

The move was welcomed as a 'big boost' to Wolverhampton, coming as it does just months after the city council revealed it was axing 2,000 jobs.

Some of the positions have already been posted on the supermarket firm's website. They include both permanent and temporary jobs.

Wolverhampton MP Emma Reynolds today said: "It's great that Sainsbury's are not only going to be moving to a brand new store that will regenerate that area of the city, but they're also recruiting 349 people. This is a welcome boost for the city."

Pat McFadden, MP for Wolverhampton South East, added: "I welcome all investment and job creation in the city."

The long-awaited store has been more than 10 years in the making. But people driving past the Raglan Street development will have seen the building making brisk progress in recent weeks, ahead of opening in late June.

GP surgeries may open for seven days a week

DOZENS of GPs surgeries in the Black Country could be set to open seven days a week under new government plans to extend opening hours across the country.

Currently only a tiny fraction of practices in the UK are open all week on a full-time basis. But Prime Minister David Cameron has set out plans aimed at making it easier for working people to access medical services at times when practices are traditionally closed.

By Peter Madeley

He said: "We want to support GPs to modernise their services so they can see patients from 8am to 8pm, seven days a week."

As part of a drive to ease winter pressures local health and care providers were each given a share of £250 million worth of government funding.

Demand

The cash has enabled health care bosses in Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton to pilot seven-day opening schemes to test demand for the service.

Dr Dan de Rosa, Chair of Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), said the group would be evaluating the successes of recent pilot schemes before making a decision on the implementation of seven-day opening.

"We do not have any specific plans to implement seven day working in primary care at this stage," he said. "We are actively looking at access to primary care and have piloted a number of different models over the winter period with the intention of improving and extending access.

"This has included Monday evening late opening, extended hours on a Monday morning and Saturday and Sunday opening. These schemes will be evaluated during April and May.''

Sandwell CCG ran a pilot scheme involving all 112 GP practices based in Sandwell and West Birmingham.

Under the scheme, which came to an end on March 31, any patient registered with a practice was able to make an appointment with a GP on a Saturday or Sunday.

Meanwhile in Walsall, 24 surgeries piloted seven-day opening during February and March. The group is currently evaluating patient take up during the scheme.

Dudley CCG elected not to run a seven-day opening trial and instead opted to channel their funds into providing alternative care.

Tune in to music ace

A PRODUCER and engineer who worked with some of the greatest names in music will be holding a talk in the Midlands next month.

Ken Scott worked with the likes of The Beatles, David Bowie and Elton John in his long career.

The music producer and engineer will be holding his Abbey Road to Ziggy Stardust talk at University of Wolverhampton's Walsall Campus on May 6 from 2.30-5pm at the Performance Hub.

Tickets are free for university students or staff, but cost £10 for the public. Go to www.eventbrite.co.uk

Pigeon fanciers can shed fears

Richard Penberthy, aged 74 and Bryan Tipton aged 76, in Bryan's pigeon shed

IT is a tradition that has been a part of Black Country life almost as long as faggots and peas.

Since the late 19th century legions of folk have been diligently working away in their lofts or gazing up at the sky patiently awaiting the return of their prized possessions.

They are the pigeon fanciers, a body of men content to dedicate endless hours in an all-out quest to find a champion bird. And pigeon racing will continue to take place in the skies above Wednesfield, after it emerged one of the region's oldest homing clubs has been saved from the brink of extinction.

The Ashmore Park Homing Society (APHS), has been run since 1960 from a shed on the car park of the then newly-built Ashmore Inn on Griffiths Drive.

At the start of this year news broke the pub and its car park had been sold off to developers New River Retail, a move which appeared to signal the death knell for the club and its 12 members. But after a meeting with a community action group the property giants agreed to allow the pub to run in its current form for at least the next five years.

BryanTipton, chairman of APHS, said the announcement had been welcome news for the members of the 54-year-old club, all of whom live in and around Wednesfield.

Times

"The pub being saved is great news and it means the club will be able to carry on," said the 76-year-old. "We are all getting on a bit so if the pub had closed we had decided to call it a day rather than going through the trouble of finding a new base.

The shed in question – a 40 sq ft brick outhouse to the north west of the car park – is where the 12 club members congregate to perform the all important task of registering the times their birds have clocked up at the end of each flight.

Chance for say over homes in villages

A SERIES of consultation events will be held in the coming weeks for people in South Staffordshire to have their say over plans for new homes.

South Staffordshire Council needs to build 1,100 homes across the district over the next 15 years to cope with increasing demand. A site allocation document has been drawn up, detailing figures for villages across the district.

A nine-week consultation is taking place and people are urged to have their say.

Display

Information will be on public display on April 29 at Cheslyn Hay Village Hall, at Pattingham Village Hall on May 1 and at St Paul's Church in Coven on May 6.

The exhibition will move to Featherstone Community Centre on May 8, Kinver Constitutional Club on May 12 and Jubilee Hall in Brewood on May 15.

People can have their say on the site allocations by 5pm on May 19.Views will be taken on board before further and more detailed plans are drawn up.

Comments should be made in writing by visiting the dedicated page on the South Staffordshire District Council website.

Poppies for memorial

YOUNG and old came together to plant poppies at a field to turn it into a memorial to those who died during the First World War.

Around 80 people helped plant the flowers at the wild meadow by the Lower Lake in Perton.

Parish councillor Andy Law, who came up with the idea, said: "We should start seeing some flowers come through by about mid July."

South Staffordshire Council, which owns the field, provided the seeds. Councillor Law now wants to install a memorial bench there.

Broadband call

MP for South Staffordshire Gavin Williamson is urging an internet company to improve broadband services in his constituency.

The Conservative MP wants BT to improve broadband services in Swindon after residents complained about the broadband level.

Volunteer plea as Wildside vows to continue

AN under-threat activity centre will stay open, bosses have pledged - as they launched an appeal for people to help secure its future.

Wildside Activity Centre, in Wolverhampton, had been facing uncertainty after it was announced the cash-strapped local authority would be axing its £73,000-a-year grant.

The centre, in Whitmore Reans, provides outdoor activities for schools and families in the city.

Bosses said the decision to keep the centre open had not been taken lightly and would mean hard work ahead. But they said with a more commercial focus, greater help from volunteers and more partnership work, they should be able to keep activities going.

It will also mean some job losses at the centre, while a 'more commercial approach' would need to be taken to prices.

Liz Hoggarth, chairman of Wildside's board, said: "The good news is that the board has taken the decision to keep the centre open. Nobody wants to lose Wildside and all it has meant to people over the last 25 years.

"It stands for getting outdoors and protecting the natural world and we need to hold on to those values."

She said there had been lots of positive comments about the centre since news of the loss of the grant was announced.

She added things for families, children, young people and schools to do in recession-hit Wolverhampton were needed.

"The decision to carry on has not been taken lightly," added Mrs Hoggarth. "It will involve lots more volunteer effort and work with key partners and funders.

"Without the council's financial support we shall have to take a more commercial approach to pricing our services but we shall definitely remain a 'not-for-profit' organisation and any surplus will always be ploughed back into the work.

"We have to slim down our staffing and we are very sad that we cannot keep all our current staff. But we should be able to continue most of our current activities and hope to rebuild our programme to full capacity over the next year or two."

The centre isurging people to do their bit to help the centre. Anyone who wants to help Wildside can contact 01902 572240.

Margot inspires disco to aid fund

A CHARITY disco inspired by little Margot Martini will be held in Wolverhampton this summer.

Dance 4 Margot and Friends will take place at the Slade Rooms in Wolverhampton on June 21.

It is being held to raise funds and awareness of Delete Blood Cancer UK in a bid to help find donors for other children who need transplants.

Margot was diagnosed with a rare form of leukaemia aged just 14 months, sparking a heartfelt plea by her family to find a suitable donor.

Friends

In February a match was found and Margot underwent an operation at London's Great Ormond Street Hospital. She is currently at home with her family following a successful bone marrow transplant.

She is recuperating with her father Yaser, mother Vicki, originally from Essington, and brothers Oscar and Rufus.

Dance 4 Margot and Friends is being organised by Team Margot, who are family and friends of the little girl. The event will feature a sweet buffet, photo booth and charity raffle

City jobless down by 225

JOBLESS figures in Wolverhampton have fallen but remain among the worst in the country.

The number of people claiming jobseeker's allowance in the city has fallen by 225 to 10,303.

But the claimant rate is still more than double the national average of 2.9 per cent of the working population and one of the worst figures in the UK.

Nationally, unemployment has fallen by 77,000 in the three months to February. The region's jobless total is down by 28,000 on the same period last year.

Focus on artist

A NEW photographic exhibition has gone on display at Wolverhampton Art Gallery.

Work from award-winning artist Justyna Ptak will be on show for the next three months. The graduate's work is influenced by domestic, architectural and rural environments.

Bogus charity collector who struck at pubs and clubs

A BOGUS charity collector has been jailed for three years. Samantha Davies visited bars and clubs in Wolverhampton claiming to be raising money for a number of charities.

A judge at Wolverhampton Crown Court said she had preyed on the generosity and decency of the unsuspecting public. The court heard how Davies, of Dunstall Road, Wolverhampton, had visited Yates, Numa Bar, Slade Rooms and a number of pubs in the city centre asking people to fill out forms and donate money.

Jailed – Samantha Davies

The 40-year-old would put the cash straight into her handbag and would use it to fuel her drug addiction, the court heard. Davies admitted one count of fraud at a hearing last month.

Judge Nicholas Webb said: "There must have been hundreds of victims and you have caused damage to the charities themselves."

Witness

These included Cancer Research, New Cross and Children in Need. MrDavid Lees, prosecuting, said: "She committed fraud in that she claimed to be raising funds for various charities and that monies would go to those charities."

He told the court that a probation officer had spotted Davies in Yates Wine Bar, in Queen Square, carrying a form, saying she was collecting for Cancer Research. "

Mr Lees said the owner of Numa Bar, in North Street, had seen her in the bar almost every Friday for six months. He was a witness to cash being handed over by customers going straight into her handbag,.

Mr Jon Roe, for Davies, said she felt genuinely ashamed. He said: "She has written to the charities to apologise. The drug addiction she suffered with often skewed her moral compass."

Planners nominated for award

COUNCIL planners have been nominated for a national award for their role in regenerating a city.

Wolverhampton City Council's planning department has been shortlisted for the team of the year at the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) Awards for Planning Excellence.

The winner will be announced on June 23. It follows the team's success in the RTPI regional awards in 2012, where the council was named the best in the West Midlands.

Ongoing projects the planning department has helped launch include: construction of the new Sainsbury's store; Interchange 10, a mix of office and retail units near the bus station; and the first new council homes in the city for 30 years.

New community hub books in

Councillor Elias Mattu officially opened the Wednesfield Library and Community Centre

A COMMUNITY hub costing £186,000 has been officially unveiled as bosses revealed it is already proving popular with customers.

Wednesfield Community Hub is one of seven in Wolverhampton which will see library and other services brought under one roof in a bid to cut costs. Others have already opened in Pendeford and Long Knowle.

The new Wednesfield service in Well Lane houses adult and children's libraries, a community hall and a new refreshment area. It also has self-service kiosks so people can borrow and return books outside of normal opening hours.

Leisure chief Councillor Elias Mattu cut the ribbon on the new hub.

"The new hub gives the people of Wednesfield the chance to access a wide range of community services from under one roof," he said. "It has proved very popular in its first few weeks of operation, and I look forward to it becoming a focal point of events and activities for the local community.

"I am sure that the improvements will not only increase the customer base of the library but also enable more people to take advantage of the superb community facilities."

Hubs in Ashmore Park and Low Hill will open next month and later this year respectively. The library will be open on Mondays, noon-7pm, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays,10am-5pm, Fridays,10am-1pm and Saturdays,10am-2pm.

NEWS in brief

Role to oversee police finances

THE Police and Crime Commissioner for the West Midlands has announced the new chair of a committee which oversees the finances of the police force.

Susan Davis CBE is chair of the joint audit committee for the commissioners office, responsible for financial governance, risk management and statutory financial duties, and for the Chief Constable.

Mrs Davis is currently Chair of Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust.

Volunteers sought for hospital roles

VOLUNTEERS are being sought to help out at a hospital shop and cafe.

The Royal Voluntary Service is looking for people aged 16 for Wolverhampton's New Cross Hospital.

Deputy manager Tom Woods said: "The roles we are looking to fill are varied and to some extent can be tailored to what the individual has experience in or what they feel confident doing."

Anybody able to help out can contact 01902 695519.

Open day invite at city university

THE University of Wolverhampton will be hosting an open day next month.

The event is for those interested in boosting their career prospects with a postgraduate qualification.

Students can meet with staff in an informal environment.

The event will be held on May 22 at the Harrison Learning Centre, MD Building Wolverhampton City Campus from 4-7pm.

Festival boosts wildlife charity

A WILDLIFE charity boosted its fundraising at a village event.

The RSPB Wolverhampton Group raised £177 at the Perton Spring Festival.

The event, organised by conservation group Wild about Perton, attracted more than 2,000 visitors to Perton Library. Children made badges and carried out different crafts.

School go-ahead

PLANS for three new outbuildings at a school have been approved by Wolverhampton City Council.

THE proposed new units have been earmarked for Wednesfield High School in Wolverhampton.

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IN MY VIEW

WITH MARK ANDREWS

SO after years of being told to cut down on our drinking, at last there's an expert who has come up with some advice we can all raise a glass to.

Dr Kari Poiklainen, who used to work for the World Health Organisation now says its okay to drink six pints a day.

Or if beer's not your bag, a full bottle of wine is all right too.

He says 'moderate' drinking is better for your health than abstinence, which in itself is probably not that controversial. But it is his definition of moderation which might raise one or two eyebrows.

Apparently, Dr Poiklainen – try saying that after six pints of Banks's – reckons anything up to 13 units a day should be ok.

To put that into context, the Government's recommended limit is 14 units a week for women, and 21 for men. Or in the traditionally po-faced US, it's 14 units a week full stop. In fact, you may remember a while back they tried stopping anybody from drinking anything at all, and that worked out, didn't it?

Still, Dr Poiklainen has been researching the effects of alcohol for years, something I have no difficulty in believing.

And you have to say, the prospect of joining for a spot of his 'research' does sound rather good fun, doesn't it? You know, ask him nicely, and he might take you on a tour of some of his favourite labs.

Predictably, the anti-drinking establishment has been unimpressed by the Finnish experts' work, with Julia Manning of the think-tank 2020Health, describing his claims as 'an unhelpful contribution to the debate.'

Now I tend to be deeply sceptical of anyone who thinks that jumbling up letters and numerals, with no gap in between, is the hallmark of a modern, progressive organisation.

And I really would like to believe Dr Poiklainen, who of course has a book to sell, but on this occasion I fear Mrs Manning might be right.

My first reaction on reading about Dr Poiklainen's work was that I wished he was my doctor. I mean, who wouldn't want to be told it's ok to live every day like closing-time at Oktoberfest?

But having thought about it again, perhaps not.

No doubt, Dr Poiklainen is a very well respected, educated man. I'm sure he has got lots of letters after his name – come to mention it, he's got a fair few letters in his name, hasn't he?

But when push comes to shove, I'm not sure he's the type of man I would want to be brandishing the scalpel during a delicate piece of surgery.

Not after he's been on a 'moderate' drinking session, anyway.

Canine capers – Matt plays with Kai after training

Fire murder – Mohammed Inayat's house

Kai in training and wearing her special dog boots

Daring blaze dogs not to be sniffed at

Canine fire investigators are really just after the reward of a tennis ball, **WILL ACKERMANN** discovers

MEET Ellie, Peppa and Kai – three sniffer dogs trained to find even the faintest traces of flammable liquids in buildings and outdoor areas they are completely unfamiliar with.

Together, they have been responsible for tracking down crucial evidence that has helped bring many a criminal to justice.

Wearing tiny boots to protect their paws from the heat residue, they are sent into burned-out buildings to find evidence of any of 12 flammable liquids – from petrol and diesel to white spirit and turpentine – even once the substances themselves have long since evaporated.

Fire investigations dog handler Matt Dixon has trained the dogs since they were puppies.

Proved

He says: "They are used primarily for finding traces of flammable liquid. The most common use is at a fire scene where we suspect arson.

"The dogs will help us find where the flammable liquid has been applied."

In April 2013, for example, Mohammed Inayat set his Birmingham house on fire in a so-called 'honour killing' plot, killing his wife and injuring his three daughters.

He denied the crime, but his guilt was proved after sniffer dogs found traces of petrol in several rooms of the house, as well as in a jug, the kitchen sink and a petrol can nearby.

Mr Dixon explains that investigators were able to prove that Inayat decanted the petrol into the jug, splashed it around the house, and poured the final few drops down the sink, before setting fire to the house. Inayat was found guilty of murder and arson and was jailed for 22 years.

Handler Matt Dixon with his fire dog detectives Kai, Ellie and Peppa

Mr Dixon says: "Without the evidence from the dog the petrol can wouldn't have been found and we probably wouldn't have picked up on the jug or the sink.

"It's impossible to say but the dogs' evidence certainly helps. Whether he would have got off without that evidence is anyone's guess."

As well as finding evidence to convict criminals, the dogs can be used to rule out suspicious circumstances and arson. In other cases, evidence found by the dogs has led police to a suspect. At the very least, it can help paint a clear picture of what happened at a crime scene.

Mr Dixon says: "Quite often we will find receptacles that will give us fingerprints, which will then lead us to a suspect and their house."

He adds: "Another example is petrol through a letterbox. The dog will do a search at a house and if they find traces on a bed upstairs it looks more like an attack from inside, rather than outside.

"Then you can start to think along the lines of whoever has done it had legitimate access."

The whole training process takes between six and nine months. Only then are the dogs ready for real investigations. And although they are taught to find flammable liquids, all they are really after are tennis balls. "The training is all play-based," says Mr Dixon. "Everything they do is a game.

"You train them using tennis balls so you get the dogs massively focused on the tennis ball and willing to search around for it.

"Then you reward the dog with one when they find the petrol, or whatever you want them to look for."

Some of the training takes place in mock buildings, or training towers, as they are called. The one at Fallings Park Fire Station, Wolverhampton, is three floors high, with all of the walls and floors made of a metal mesh that the dog can see through.

"From a dog's point of view it's a very alien environment," says Mr Dixon.

"From a very young age I take my dogs to places that are a bit weird. I need to be comfortable they are going to be happy with whatever environment I put them in.

Relax

"If I need to take them up on a hydraulic platform, for example, they need to be happy with that."

Mr Dixon has held his role for more than seven years. He spends most of his time in the West Midlands, but also covers jobs across the country.

German short-haired shepherd Peppa, aged five, and Belgian shepherd Malinois, 15 months, undertake around 100 jobs a year, as did Springador Ellie, 12, before she retired.

When they get time to relax, they enjoy being fawned over by schoolchildren during their regular assembly presentations, where the pupils learn about what the dogs do and the impact of arson.

But after a hard day's work, they love nothing more than chasing tennis balls back at home with Mr Dixon – even Ellie, who hung up her tiny fire dog boots six months ago, after seven years' service.

POLITICS

WITH DANIEL WAINWRIGHT

CRISIS? What crisis? Apparently Ed Miliband's cost-of-living crisis is over, if it ever existed at all.

That's the argument advanced by the Chancellor and Tory MPs as they claim 'compelling evidence' that the economic strategy is working.

Wages are growing faster than inflation, unemployment is down and house sales (not to mention prices) are up. So why the growth in food bank use then?

People who want to claim politicians are all just the same might want to look a bit more closely.

As Parliament went into recess, MPs were suggesting a very different picture of Britain's progress.

Gavin Williamson, the always friendly and cheerful MP for South Staffordshire, says 83,000 more people are in work since the Tories didn't quite come to power.

"That means 83,000 more hard-working people bringing home a regular pay packet, giving them and their family more financial security for the future," he said.

Labour has a very different view of the 'secure future' we are embarking on.

Dudley MP Ian Austin says a record 93,461 people used West Midlands food banks in the last year, including 35,425 children. He suggests 'thousands of families in the West Midlands face a cost- of-living crisis and the benefits system is in chaos'.

Those figures are from the Trussell Trust charity. And the Government thinks they might be making a rod for their own back.

An unnamed spokesman for the Department for Work and Pensions said: "Even the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development says there are fewer people struggling with their food bills compared with a few years ago, benefit processing times are improving and the Trussell Trust's own research recognises the effect their marketing activity has on the growth of their business."

It comes down to your point of view. Fewer people struggle with food bills, but food bank use has grown.

□□□□□□

Wolverhampton MP Pat McFadden made some remarks in a broadcast interview this week that he wants a Labour party that 'takes wealth creation every bit as seriously as its fair distribution'. The remarks were seized upon by some of the national papers as a sign that he did not think his party leadership had a workable economic plan.

In fact the Blairite MP for Wolverhampton South East's views on this are well known. What were not picked up were his concerns over the prospect of Britain leaving the European Union. He calls the possibility the 'biggest economic threat facing the country'.

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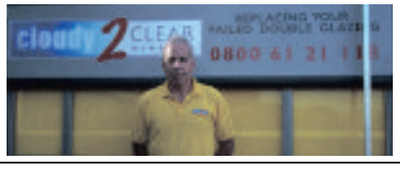
It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!



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Bungalow built round a bus now up for sale

IT could be the most unusual home ever to come up for auction - a Staffordshire bungalow built around a bus.

At the heart of the home, Sunningdale in Dark Lane, Coven, are the remains of a Wolverhampton trolley bus dating back to the 1930s.

Remarkably, parts of the vehicle are still intact, with a bedroom which was once the lower deck, wheels and window. The bungalow is now set to go under the hammer at a property auction run by CP Bigwood at the Holte Suit, at Aston Villa Football Club on May 1.

CP Bigwood partner Ron Darlington said: "It is one of the most bizarre things I have ever seen. I've never witnessed anything like it."

Value

He was called out to value the bungalow and said: "There was nothing outside to indicate what you would find inside. But they had taken down some of the plasterboard from the walls inside and there was the side of the bus and part of a wheel.

"It was a double decker bus, but they had taken the top off and used the lower deck to make a bedroom, building the bungalow around it..

"It's got to be seen to be believed. I've been doing this job for about 40 years and never seen anything quite like this."

Described as 'derelict', but until recently lived in by an elderly woman, it has a guide price of £75,000-£80,000 based on the site's potential redevelopment value.

But it started out as Wolverhampton Trolleybus 274. It first hit the roads in August 1938 and is thought to have been based at the then newly-built Park Lane bus garage at Fallings Park.

From the outside this bungalow hides an unusual secret

Look closely and you can see the wheel of the bus

It finished service in 1949 after being in an accident – Wolverhampton Corporation renewed the whole fleet between 1948 and 1952.

Put up for sale, it was bought by a Mr S B Church of Park Lane, Fallings Park, who lived just down the road from the bus depot.

The trolley bus was subsequently towed to Anchor Bridge at Coven where it was converted into a summer home and named The Brubet.

In 1968 the owners removed the top deck and a bungalow was built around the vehicle in a way which incorporated the old bus.

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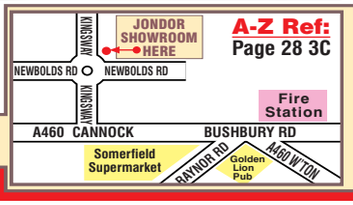

A-Z Ref: Page 28 3C

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Do we need yet another mosque?

I READ with interest the proposals for yet another abandoned building in Wolverhampton to be converted into a mosque – do we not have enough already?

It seems that every vacant building is snapped up to become a mosque. The one in Newhampton Road is being extended, with another not a stone's throw away in what was a pub on the corner of Hordern Road. Then there is the large mosque at the bottom of Waterloo Road plus several others just out of the city. Peter Rhodes thinks it's a good thing and will bring foreign students to study It may do but it will only encourage students from Islamic states.

A much better use for the Gala Casino would be to convert to affordable housing for all students coming to Wolverhampton or to house some of the homeless young people we have on our streets.

How this city has changed in my 63 years, once there was a pub on every corner.

S MCWILLIAMS
Codsall

So many came and had a chat

FOLLOWING our Parkinson's Awareness Day in the Mander Centre in April I would like to thank most sincerely the generous people of Wolverhampton.

The day was most rewarding, not only from a collecting point of view but also in the number of people who came and chatted.

The total collected was £391.07 which was most unexpected in the present day climate.

Thank you from all at Fresh Approach, The Wolverhampton Young at Heart Support Group, Parkinson's UK.

GWEN LOVATT
Group Lead
Fresh Approach

Blighted by advertising hoardings

THE gateway to Wolverhampton from the north blighted by advertising, an attractive rural scene damaged and now graced by 4m tall, 5m wide building development advertising hoarding given temporary planning approval until March 2019.

Thank you Wolverhampton Cricket Club for permitting this intrusion.

A simple directional sign to the building site 1/2 mile away in Danescourt would suffice, advertising should be reserved for the Express & Star or periodicals. There have been several accidents at this junction without this further distraction on the approach to a blind bend.

No consultation letters, no planning notices displayed, we have apparently no rights when our environment is being blighted and our street scene is being destroyed.

Where was our MP and local councillor when the planners decide to destroy this rural scene without a thought for the residents of Tettenhall.

T GREEN
Tettenhall

LETTERS to the Editor

POST
Wolverhampton Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

E-MAIL
wolverhampton.chronicles@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

How council wasted money

WOLVERHAMPTON Council must have the worst reputation in the country; 2,000 employees facing redundancy, recycling centre hours being cut, library hours cut, parking charges up, stores closing, all with the aim of saving £123m which they have squandered.

They expect people to visit the city, but see no harm in wasting £1.6m desecrating Queen Street. Also a lot of money was wasted putting silly water jets in Queen Square which don't serve any real purpose.

Parking spaces were lost off Broad Street car park to make way for a bus layover, which has never been used. Now the row over pods built on houses in Low Hill in the 70s/80s crumbling and facing demolition, to the cost of thousands of pounds.

The council are offering to buy back the houses from tenants they sold them to at full market value, but if they are almost broke where is the money coming from? Also where is the money to pay for the demolition?

J LONG
Wednesfield

Thanks for daffodil aid

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to everyone in Wolverhampton who helped make Marie Curie Cancer Care's Great Daffodil Appeal such a big success this March.

A total of £1,014 was collected in the city centre and a further £1,666 in supermarkets. The appeal wouldn't be possible without the contribution of our fantastic volunteer collectors who tirelessly encouraged people to make a donation and wear a daffodil, and the generosity of everyone who gave what they could to support people with terminal illnesses.

We are also very grateful to the Wolverhampton Lions who joined us in collecting for the Great Daffodil Appeal this year.

The funds make it possible for Marie Curie nurses to provide more free hands-on care to people with terminal illnesses in their own homes, as well as giving vital emotional support for their families.

This is what makes the Great Daffodil Appeal so important.

ALYSIA CAMERON-PRICE
Community Fundraiser

BRIDGE CORNER

BRIDGE, perhaps to the surprise of any non-players who may have strayed in the direction of this column, can be an extraordinarily exciting pursuit.

Witness South's plunge into slam territory this week.

North bid One Club and South, sensibly, bid a spade and awaited developments.

North responded One No Trump which promised at least two spades and South was in a quandary. The Four No Trumps ace-asking bid would here be taken as a quantitative invitation to Six No Trumps and if the defence got going before partner could run spades, disaster might well ensue.

Anyway, North's 15 or 16 points would surely include two aces and all would be well, so Six Spades it was.

West led a sound trump to cut down on ruffs and South, eagerly perusing Dummy for the missing ace, then recalled that the partnership's methods meant the One No Trump bid was actually 13 or 14 points. Ah.

Declarer reckoned his sole chance was to finesse the club king and see if he could ruff the suit good. West, alas, held the ace and returned...another trump.

In fairness to that glum defender, he had reasonably read the ace/10 of hearts as being with Declarer rather than partner. Another trump looked a good choice.

Declarer won in Dummy, ruffed a club, returned with the diamond ace and slung his hearts on the established clubs. Slam (fortuitously) made.

– Tim

North: ♠ J10 ♥ KQ8 ♦ A96 ♣ QJ762

West: ♠ 84 ♥ J6 ♦ KJ842 ♣ A854

East: ♠ 5 ♥ A10942 ♦ Q1053 ♣ 1093

South: ♠ AKQ97632 ♥ 753 ♦ 7 ♣ K

THE BIDDING

W	N	E	S
	1C	P	1S
P	1NT	P	6S
P	P	P	

Allotment keeps us fit

PETER Rhodes remarks that the high price of fresh fruit and vegetables means only rich people can afford to get their 'seven-a-day'.

My husband and I always get our quota of fresh fruit and vegetables but we are far from rich.

How do we manage to eat so healthily? We have an allotment which we tend regularly and it rewards us with fresh air, exercise, social interaction and cheap and tasty crops.

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Travellers petition for changes to bus service

HUNDREDS of bus users have put their names to a petition calling for their route to be changed.

Those who use the number 62 and 62A services, which travel between Wolverhampton and Finchfield or Perton, would like to see the hours extended.

The bus was recently rerouted to cover the number 25, which has been stopped amid claims too few people were using it.

But the numbers 62 and 62A only operates between 10am-3.30pm, meaning those who were using the 25 outside of those hours now struggle to use the new service.

Resident Brian Fereday has taken his complaints to MP for Wolverhampton South West Paul Uppal and transport authority Centro.

He said: "Generally the timetable for the 62 was not changed, and it's very compressed compared to that of the 25.

Difficulty

"The first bus for the 25 was something like 7.45am, which was ideal for schoolchildren, and the last bus left the bus station at 11pm, so it covered a very large period of the day. In contrast the 62 is a very very abridged version."

Mr Fereday was one of a number of bus users who handed the petition of around 200 names to Wolverhampton's Centro representatives, including Councillor Ian Claymore.

Councillor Claymore has now passed that petition on to the relevant authorities, and it will be considered by Centro and the bus operators.

He said: "The petition has been signed predominantly by elderly and disabled people and parents. For residents who need to use the bus service in either direction, quite simply they have to go to bus stops that are about 300 yards away.

"If they have difficulty with walking or if the weather is adverse, it poses considerable difficulties, particularly if they are in their 70s."

Some-sling new swings in

Sling mums strut their stuff in the Mander Centre

SHOPPERS had a surprise as some-sling unexpected hit a busy city centre.

Around 30 mums carrying their babies in slings suddenly began dancing in Wolverhampton's Queen's Square, before then heading over to the Mander Centre and performing their routine again.

The flash mob was organised by mothers and babies group Sling Swing to promote a charity fun day in May, as well as to raise awareness of the benefits of 'wearing' your baby.

Carly Birchell, who runs the dance classes, said: "It's great for bonding and getting out and about."

The group, which hold classes in Penn and Wombourne, enjoy surprising members of the public and are making a habit of flash mobs, having done one in Trafalgar Square in February.

Their dancing antics have caught the attention of Simon Cowell, after they made an appearance at the Britain's Got Talent live auditions.

The group is holding its charity fun day between 11am and 3pm on May 10 at Aldersley Stadium in Tettenhall, and raising cash for New Cross Neo Natal Unit, Birmingham Children's Hospital, Sands Wolverhampton and the National Childcare Trust.

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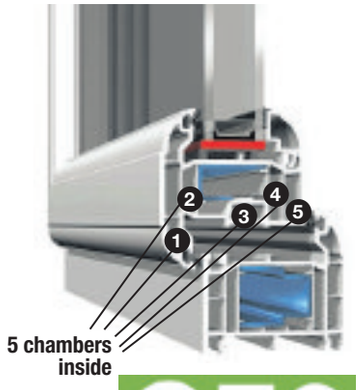

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Businesses go global with video conference

BUSINESS in the Black Country has gone global with a ground-breaking video conference. It was streamed to 10 countries and seen by representatives from 2,000 companies worldwide.

by Simon Stone

It also generated more than 200,000 tweets. The revolutionary two-day meeting was organised by the West Midlands Economic Forum and held at Wolverhampton Business Solutions Centre.

It included one hour-long two way video conference link with UK Trade and Investment office or Embassies in Indonesia, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Nigeria, Mexico, Turkey, China, India, Germany and the United States.

Opportunities

Each involved presentations along with question and answer sessions about the business opportunities for local firms.

Bosses could e-mail or tweet questions while watching the proceedings from behind their own office free of charge. The plan is for a similar 'global trade fair' four times a year.

Among those who attended were Foreign Office MInister Hugo Swire and Wolverhampton South West MP Paul Uppal. Paul Forrest, head of research at the West Midlands Economic forum said: "This is a new initiative for us and the first of its kind in the country.

"The aim is to bring companies and businesses from the local region into direct contact with UK Trading Investment offices as well as importers and exporters from the principal trading partners of the Midlands.

The original idea came from a discussion we had over the possibility of having a video link with Wolverhampton for a meeting in Telford. Then somebody said if we can do that why can't we do it with anywhere else in the world."

Mum's the word on new dance school

Open auditions as Katie Lander jumps for joy over opening of new dance club

A NEW dance school to get people off the sofa and enjoy some exercise has been set up.

Donna and Katie Lander launched Dance Elite at Willenhall's E-Act Academy and will be holding open auditions for people to sign up.

The mother and daughter set up the classes because of their shared love for dancing and singing.

Katie studied performing arts at Walsall College and will be teaching disco, freestyle, ballet and tap one day a week.

Mrs Lander, aged 48, said: "Katie has been singing since the age of three. She is now 19 and her passion has never died. I have been singing for the last 45 years so together we are both really looking forward to holding auditions" They will be held on April 27. Dancers aged five to 12 can show off their skills from 11am- noon and anyone over the age of 12 can audition between 12-1pm.

Successful applicants will be expected to take part in a 70s disco show during the summer holidays.

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Overcrowding is biggest bugbear for tram users

OVERCROWDING has been identified as the biggest bugbear for tram passengers in the West Midlands, according to a watchdog body.

Passenger Focus carried out a survey of 556 passengers on the Midland Metro service, which runs from Wolverhampton to Birmingham.

The study found that most passengers were happy with the service, which compared favourably with other forms of public transport, but the biggest source of complaints surrounded a lack of space.

While the service was praised for the condition of its vehicles, punctuality and journey times, 30 per cent identified the lack of personal space as a problem and a quarter said they were dissatisfied with the availability of seating or standing areas.

Expensive

Two-thirds of passengers in the West Midlands said it represented satisfactory value for money, although 18 per cent thought the fares were too expensive.

Paul Griffiths, Metro programme director at public transport authority Centro, said he was pleased with the findings of the survey.

He added that a new £40 million fleet of larger trams would be running from the summer onwards, alleviating the problems with crowding. The new trams will be a third bigger than the existing stock, able to carry around 210 passengers, compared to 156 on the current model.

"This, together with a frequency of 10 trams an hour, will increase overall capacity by 40 per cent." he said.

Almost half of those questioned said they would use the trams more often were it not for the level of crowding. When asked what improvements they would like to see, more than half identified the lack of space as something which needed addressing.

The survey found that the typical tram user was a young person on their way to work.

New restaurant backed

Former site of Moscow Bar in Darlington Street, Wolverhampton

A NEW restaurant in the heart of Wolverhampton has been given the go-ahead by licensing officials.

The former Moscow Bar in Darlington Street will be turned into a 60-seater restaurant potentially creating up to 10 jobs.

It was agreed by Wolverhampton City Council's licensing committee.

Applicant, Mal Namakshenas, who has worked in the trade for 30 years, wants the venue to be a high-end family venue.

The new premises will be called Zizi and the restaurant boss says he hopes it will revitalise the city.

Councillor Bishan Dass, chair of the licensing committee, said the restaurant had met the criteria required by the council and West Midlands Police.

"The restaurant agreed it would install CCTV and not allow glasses outside of the premises. It has also agreed not to take orders past 10.30pm."

Like all buildings within Wolverhampton's Cumulative Impact Zone, Zizi could only be granted late-night licences if it prove it would not add to problems with the consumption of alcohol in the area.

The building had been The Moscow Bar. In 2008 a police report on the venue revealed there had been a number of incidents there.

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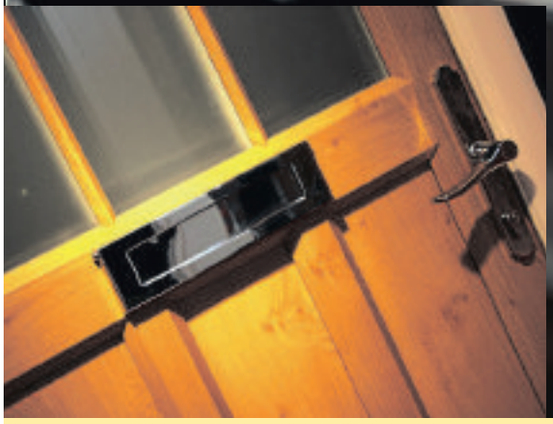

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Pedal power wheels in £6,000 charity booster

A GROUP of friends who cycled more than 100 miles have raised more than £6,000 for a five-year old girl battling a rare form of cancer.

James Bertram rallied a team of 20 to take part in a 108-mile ride starting and finishing at The Mount Hotel in Tettenhall, passing through Stoke, Shrewsbury and Bridgnorth .

The ride was to raise money for Kelli Smith, whose stepfather, Tom Attwater, from Pattingham, is aiming to raise £500,000 to send her abroad for pioneering treatment.

Mr Bertram, of Oak Tree Rise, Codsall, said after all the donations have been collected and Gift Aid added, they should have broken the £6,000 barrier. He said:"It was a great day. The support from our friends and family was absolutely out of this world."

The ride included Andy Sahota, from Punjabi Wolves Supporters Club, and Dave Atkinson, from Lloyds TSB and the team was also being supported by Wolves footballer Danny Batth and his brother Adam.

Mr Bertram decided to do something after reading an article about Kelli who was diagnosed with neuroblastoma aged just three months old.

She is now in remission, but Mr Attwater fears she could suffer a relapse without the treatment, which the NHS has refused to pay for. To donate, visit www.justgiving.com/helpkelli and to donate to the cycle fundraiser, visit www.justgiving.com/kellismith100milecycle

The team of charity cyclists line up outside The Mount Hotel, Tettenhall before the off for the 100-mile challenge for the Kelli appeal

Rules mean would-be soldiers can now cash in

WOULD-BE soldiers from the West Midlands and Staffordshire can start cashing in on the reorganisation of the British Army from this summer.

People wanting to join the Army Reserve, formally the Territorial Army, have the chance to realise their dream and earn £500-a-week in the process.

By Simon Stone

The annual Midland Challenge event is set to be staged in the area for the sixth-year running but this will be the first time those taking part will benefit from a new set of financial incentives.

These were introduced by the Government amid plans to boost the national strength of the Army Reserve from 19,000 to 30,000 by 2020 while the regular army is cut by 20,000.

The Midland Challenge, which starts in July, allows training that would normally take a member of the Army Reserve up to one and a half years to complete, finished in six weeks instead.

Quality

Captain Austin Miller, the operations support officer for 4th Battalion the Mercian Regiment (4Mercian) - the unit's Army Reserve element - explained: "It produces a better quality of recruit because all the training is completed in one go and there is no risk of skill fade.

"Normally it has to be spread over weekends and two two-week long courses that can take a person up to one and a half years to finish.

"Up to 90 recruits normally complete the challenge and we are expecting at least that number this year with the added advantage of the extra financial incentives. It tends to be targeted at students which is why it is run in July and August."

With the new incentives recruits receive £300 when they sign on, £1,000 when they complete phase one and a further £1,000 after finishing the second element.

The also get £35-a-day as their Army Reserve pay, meaning they could earn £3,700 if they pass the six-week course, the equivalent of more than £500-a-week. The daily rate rises to £43 after completion.

Cpt Miller commented: "It is a good income for a summer job during which they have fun and acquire new skills army training that could see them with the opportunity to go abroad with the Army Reserve from September."

4Mercian will be linked with 2Mercian currently moving its HQ from Northern Ireland to Chester. Up to 60 members of 4Mercian are set to deploy with members of 2Mercian as part of the UN peacekeeping force in Cyprus in October.

People can contact their local army reserve centre or e-mail details to 4merc-bhq-roso@mod.uk

Petrov match is caught on camera

A CHARITY football match created by former Aston Villa star Stiliyan Petrov has been preserved on film by a Wolverhampton production company.

Premier League players took on Aston Villa legends in the game, which was held to raise awareness of Petrov's Foundation which helps leukaemia sufferers and their families and comes after the footballer himself was hit with the disease.

Stone's Throw Media was asked to record the match, which can now be viewed online.

Matt Weston, from Stone's Throw Media, based at Wolverhampton Science Park, said: "Having collaborated with Aston Villa when 'Stan' was captain, and having captured an emotional minute's applause when he was diagnosed with leukaemia, it was really fantastic for us to chart this new chapter in Stiliyan's life. One of our videos was also shown on Sky Sports during a feature on the match."

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A more up-to-date picture of Cleveland Passage

Photo: Joyce Perry

No 2 Summer Row

Bell Street 1950s - the entrance to Cleveland Passage is next to the 1876 building

Worcester Street – from the 1870 town map

Birthplace to founder of Hope help group

MEMORY LANE

by Tony and Joyce Perry

NEW Summer Row, if it had gone ahead, would have combined a new commercial development, with traditional and modern styles and public spaces.

It would have meant the refurbishment of Victoria Street and Worcester Street buildings, bringing them back to economic life.

Instead, some of the old properties are now in a poor condition, although council estates surveyors are starting to bring some back to good use, as they have done with interesting businesses in the Cleveland Street block of shops.

Cleveland Street was developed by the Duke of Cleveland from 1828.

Before this, the land behind the Victoria Street and Worcester Street buildings was a mix of gardens, a brick-making area and a field called 'Mr Brett's Close'.

The Fold or alley Cleveland Passage was not laid through this area until some years later.

But the old Summer Row, off Temple Street, was already built up with cottages before 1808, when number 2 was the birthplace of Reverend Jebez Tunnicliff.

Forlorn

He was the founder of the First Band of Hope to promote Christian teaching and avoidance of the problems of alcohol amongst children.

Apart from the ancient Plough and Harrow, the older frontage buildings date from about 1830 to 1880, an early one being the now forlorn but once imposing corner-house which many years ago was the Mitre Hotel. At the corner of Bell Street the block, which also still retains some of its features, in 1876 replaced the timber-framed Old Barrel Inn.

Around the corner in Bell Street were many three-storey cottages, the top floor of which had wider windows to allow natural light for working, maybe for occupations connected with the wool trade such as weaving.

Also there was another small row of 'Tenters', hooks for stretching the processed cloth. So there was some connection with the wool and cloth trade.

For further information read "The Folds of Wolverhampton" published by Brewin Books.l

Also look at www.wolverhamptonfolds.co.uk a website to inform people, promote the Folds and encourage their improvement, development and further use.

Archive photographs courtesy Wolverhampton Archives and Local Studies.

Mitre Inn– corner house at the junction of Victoria Street

Bell Street Cottages - some of the three storey houses

Old Barrel Inn – the timber-framed inn (taken about 1970)

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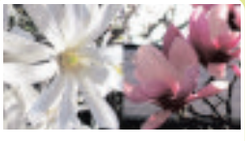

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Fears over health led to suicide of man, 57

A MAN who became obsessed with his physical health after undergoing a liver transplant and triple heart bypass was found hanged at his home, an inquest heard.

Manjit Sangha was discovered at his address in Coalway Road, Penn, by his brother on October 28 last year. Sandwell Coroner's Court was told Mr Sangha had developed a 'pessimistic outlook'.

By Lee Watton

The inquest heard Mr Sangha, 57, was pre-occupied by his physical health, visiting Penn Manor Medical Centre 15 times in the 10 months prior to his death and consulting GPs there 25 times the previous year.

Medication

Dr Jonathan White, from the centre in Manor Road, Penn, said: "Mr Sangha needed to take medication because of the liver transplant and the heart bypass.

"However he did not believe the medication he was taking was appropriate and caused side effects."

Dr White said there was nothing to suggest this was the case and a post mortem showed, despite his concerns, there were no issues with his liver or heart.

The inquest heard Mr Sangha had threatened to kill himself before but there was no indication he had intended to go through with it.

He had seen mental health experts but they had seen no signs of clinical depression and he had been referred back to his GP and had been given medication.

His wife Daljit Sangha said they had separated six years ago but still spoke every day. "After the transplant he was more pre-occupied with his health and thought negatively about it. He developed a very pessimistic outlook towards the end of his life."

Mr Balmain concluded Mr Sangha killed himself. The medical cause of death was given as asphyxia due to hanging.

Special award for team leader Tracey

A group of students are on a 12-week personal development programme through the Prince's Trust

A YOUTH worker has been recognised for helping to transform the lives of more than 100 young people.

Prince's Trust team leader Tracey Powell, who studies at City of Wolverhampton College, was nominated in the West Bromwich Community Regeneration Awards for her outstanding contribution to the town.

She picked up her certificate at a ceremony at West Bromwich Town Hall.

Ms Powell has spent the last four years working as a team leader on the Prince's Trust's 12-week team programme, working with vulnerable young adults, many of whom have now moved on to further education,voluntary work or employment.

She said: "I'm very privileged to do what I do and feel it is the students who put in all the effort – my job is to help them."

The next Prince's Trust Team starts at Wednesbury Fire Station on May 27. Details on 01902 836000.

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Amelia gets a real kick out of winning

Medal winners Amelia Harvey, Megan Hill with Tom Steel and Curtis Harvey at the front

KARATE star Amelia Harvey is getting a real kick out of her sport after lifting the English women's title for the second year in succession.

The 19-year-old added the victory in the plus 68 kilo category to her recent victory in the British University championships. She is training hard for the European Championships in Finland this month when she will be representing England. The teenager, from Oxley, has also been selected for the England team in the World Championships in Montenegro in June. She also won silver in the women's open event at the English championships. Her brother Curtis, aged 18, took bronze in the men's open weight event.

Their father Stennett Harvey is their coach at the Ikon Martial Arts Centre in Bushbury. There were also bronze medals for Steel and Megan Hill.

Model boost for JLR site

JAGUAR Land Rover has unveiled the next generation of its popular Discovery 4x4.

But this time the West Midlands-made car will be part of a new family of vehicles aiming to dominate their end of the car market.

The launch of the new car could signal good news for JLR's new engine factory in Wolverhampton as well as the Solihull plant that makes Land Rovers and the region's scores of car-part makers who supply the company.

The new Discovery Vision Concept, unveiled in New York, is the first of what will become a new family of vehicles, developing the old Disco off-roader into a string of different cars, each appealing to different sorts of customers. The first will go on sale next year.

That will push up sales and boost demand from the Land Rover factory at Solihull, where thousands of new workers have been already recruited in recent years. And smaller versions of the new Discovery family could be powered by the new four-cylinder Ingenium engines made by the £500 million Wolverhampton factory, which is already set to create 1,400 jobs in the next few years.

It is part of JLR's campaign to boost its record-breaking sales even higher in the years to come, building on the success of its top-selling Range Rover Evoque. The new Jaguar XE saloon - powered by Wolverhampton-built engines is due to be unveiled later this year and go on sale in 2015.

TV jungle star is mystery show VIP

A STAR of ITV's I'm A Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here! will be swapping the jungle for the Mayor's Parlour when he attends a charity fashion show next month.

The contestant, whose identity is not being revealed before the Summer Inspirations Women's Fashion Show, is set to be in the audience.

Wolverhampton Mayor Councillor Milkinder Jaspal has teamed up with The Fashion Show Company to stage the catwalk show at 7pm on May 8.

Professional models will showcase the latest trends from Primrose Hill in Shifnal and Aristocats of Bridgnorth, while Wolverhampton's version of Gok Wan - Libby Walton of Styling You - will be on hand to offer styling tips and advice.

Charities

Away from the catwalk, Tettenhall baking experts Sugar Budz will demonstrate what happens when you add a little bit of imagination to cake decorating.

Mayor Councillor Jaspal said: "The fashion show promises to be an excellent event."

The show will raise money for the Mayor's three chosen charities, Guide Dogs, St Peter's Collegiate Church and the Black Country branch of the MS Society.

Tickets £15 , including glass of Prosecco and light refreshments must be booked in advance. Call01902 554090.

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FOCUS ON BILSTON

Plan for 33 homes on site of former leisure centre

HOUSES will be built on the site of the former Bilston Leisure Centre as part of a scheme to create almost 100 new homes in the town.

Members of Wolverhampton Council's cabinet were due this week to be recommended to endorse proposals for 33 homes on the site of the old complex in Proud Lane. It will be in addition to the 64 homes already planned for the adjacent land in Mount Pleasant.

By Mark Andrews

The centre was demolished in October 2012 following the opening of the £18.6 million Bert Williams Leisure Centre in 2011.

The news was welcomed by Councillor Phil Page, who represents Bilston North ward on the authority.

Need

He said there was an acute need for more high-quality housing in the Bilston area.

"Many people want to live in Bilston, and we need to build more houses for them to live in," he said

"We did a survey a while back which found, after Tettenhall, Bilston was the most popular area of Wolverhampton.

"I'm not surprised, because it is a great place to live, there are some wonderful people, so I would welcome this scheme to build more houses."

The report due to before the cabinet also calls on the authority to formally endorse changes to the £178m Bilston Urban Village scheme, which will see the proposed number of homes increased from 500 to 625.

If the report is approved, the plans will go out to a six-week consultation period, where interested parties will be invited to have their say.

The amendments follow the publication of the Bilston Area Action Plan last year, which members of the public were invited to have their say on.

The proposals for the leisure centre site would still be subject to planning permission.

The plan will also be amended to allow for an increased number of homes on land in Thompson Avenue.

Permission had originally been granted for 100 homes on the site, but this has now been changed to 120.

If there are no objections the plans will formally be adopted by the council later in the year.

Guerrilla knitting to bloom

AN army of knitters will transform Bilston town centre into a colourful display by covering street furniture in woolly decorations.

The newly-formed Bilston Yarn Bombers plan to hit the streets on the morning of July 11, when judges will be visiting for the annual Bilston in Bloom competition.

Yarn bombing – sometimes referred to as guerrilla knitting – has spread throughout the UK, with people covering trees, lampposts, statues and bicycle racks in the colourful knitted 'temporary graffiti'.

Bilston town centre manager Cheryl Welsh said: "I put on Facebook for anybody interested to get involved and in true Bilston style, you put a call out for help and it comes."

A group of six or seven women, ranging from in their 20s to pensioners, now meet regularly at The Sir Henry Newbolt pub in High Street, Bilston to knit.

They are appealing for members of the public to donate knitting equipment or old jumpers and cardigans, which can be dropped at Morrisons, on the Black Country Route, Bilston Town Hall, The Olde White Rose Inn, in Lichfield Street, or The Sir Henry Newbolt.

Enjoying her new Easter bonnet is June Guest watched by resident Betty Wood

Care home residents get crafty

CREATIVE care home residents have been crafting spring-time headgear.

The residents at Lime Tree Court Residential Care Home in Bilston made colourful Easter bonnets during activity sessions.

Resident June Guest, aged 77, said: "We had an absolutely fabulous time making the hats and it was so lovely to see them finished with all their bright colours."

Doris Griffin, 87, added: "It was a very enjoyable afternoon. I had such a laugh making the hats with my friends at the home."

The residents were due to parade their bonnets before an external judge at a party being held at the home on Easter Monday, which the team and residents' friends and loved ones are being invited to.

Linda Elwell, activities manager at the Ettingshall Road care home, which is run by Sanctuary Care.

Scouts to pay tribute to soldiers

SCOUTS from Bilston who fought in the First World War will be remembered at a ceremony this weekend.

The Wolverhampton East District's St Georges Day celebration will be held at the town's Cenotaph on Sunday (27), or in the town hall if the weather is bad.

The event will pay tribute to all those who served between 1914-18, including 12 young men from the 1st Bilston Scout Group in Prouds Lane who all signed up on the same day.

It will also remember Corporal William Harpin, from Bilston, and Corporal Arthur Flavell, from Coseley, who died in action in France.

Twelve current explorer scouts and young leaders will dress in First World War outfits and old scout uniforms, with two girls also in nurses' uniforms of the period, representing the 12 who signed up.

Church plan gets blessing

PLANS to expand a church have now been given the go-ahead.

The extension has been earmarked for Bilston Pentecostal Church which is on Wolverhampton Street in Bilston.

A planning application for the two-storey development has been given the go ahead by Wolverhampton City Council at a meeting held recently.

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Full steam ahead as firm on board for loco project

Project to recreate golden age of steam – Tony Massau, Dan Cartwright and Chris Proudfoot

A WOLVERHAMPTON company will be helping to recreate the golden age of steam by sponsoring a scheme to build a new tank engine for the Severn Valley Railway.

Wulfrun Consulting has got on board with the 82045 Steam Locomotive Trust which is building a new example of a long-extinct railway engine.

The company is financing the manufacture of the coal bunker for the locomotive which is being built at the Severn Valley Railway in Bridgnorth.

Wulfrun consulting owner Daniel Cartwright has been a member of the 82045 Trust since 2010.

The locomotive is a recreation of the British Rail Standard Class 3 engine type, which was built between 1952 and 1955.

Interest

It was withdrawn from service in 1967, and no examples survive to the present day.

Mr Cartwright said he was delighted to be sponsoring an eye-catching component of the locomotive, which he hoped would generate more interest and support for the project.

"This is a really exciting engineering project which will return to the rails a modern type of British Railways Standard locomotive designed and built at Swindon and once to be be seen over much of the UK," he said.

"Sadly, all were swept away and scrapped in the late 1960s as part of the British Rail modernisation plan."

Project engineer Tony Massau said: "We look forward to having the engine's bunker fabricated this summer. It will be painted dark green, lined out in orange and black."

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Blues Eyes new look to historic room

Owner Sophie Fern opens her new shop Blue Eyes Occasion at an old chamber room in Codsall

THIS historic room had been left vacant for more than 20 years but has been restored thanks to a new business.

Blue Eyes Occasions has opened up at the former committee room at Codsall Legionnaires Club in Wood Road, Codsall, which has lain dormant for 22 years. And the new business has returned it to the community after opening a shop which sells party balloons, flowers and gifts.

Owner Sophie Fern, who is just 21, opened up the shop with the help of her family three weeks ago.

The room was originally used as a committee room, where the people who run the club would meet and make decisions about the day-to-day business.

Drugs man spared jail

A WOLVERHAMPTON man caught with over £850 worth of cannabis and a small quantity of cocaine has avoided a prison sentence.

Americo Gambone was caught with two large bags of the drug at his home in Parkfields.

Officers seized £230 in cash, a dealer's list and cannabis with a street value of £870. Mr Geoffrey Dann, prosecuting, said officers also retrieved drug dealing paraphernalia.

Financial

Judge Nicholas Webb told Gambone, aged 43, of Myrtle Street: "This was street dealing, your role was significant and clearly motivated by financial gain,."

But he ruled at Wolverhampton Crown Court that Gambone was just able to keep his freedom.

Gambone admitted possessing cannabis with intent to supply and also possessing cocaine which was for his personal use and he was given a 10 month jail term suspended for two years.

He was further placed on supervision for a year and put on a four-month curfew between 8pm-7am.

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Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai ix20 Active 1.6 Auto: Urban 34.0 (8.3), Extra Urban 51.4 (5.5), Combined 43.6 (6.5), CO_2 Emissions 154 g/km. Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai ix35 S 1.7 CRDi: Urban 44.8 (6.3), Extra Urban 58.9 (4.8), Combined 53.3 (5.3), CO_2 Emissions 139 g/km.

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CLEARANCE £399.98 EX.VAT £479.98 INC.VAT
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Clarke PEMBROKE CAST IRON STOVE
CLEARANCE £329.98 EX.VAT £395.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £515.98 INC.VAT

• Burns wood or coal • Heat output up to 40,968 Btu/hr (12kW) • Dimensions (WDH) 575x473x746mm • Weight 126kg • Built to comply with the latest En13240 standards • Door opening: 215x345 • Outlet at the top and rear

Clarke KING 145 HOT WASHER
• Powerful 2.4 hp motor for greater performance • 6.1 litre/min flow rate for quicker cleaning • 230Volt/1800Watt

CLEARANCE £449.98 EX.VAT £539.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £898.80 INC.VAT

Clarke PLS190N 186BAR HEAVY DUTY PETROL DRIVEN PRESSURE WASHER
• 6.5hp (4.8kW) 4 stroke petrol engine • Max water flow rate12.6litres/min (756litres/hr) • Max pressure 186bar • Professional lance with protective shroud • Adjustable high pressure output • Detergent pick-up hose • Weight: 48kg

CLEARANCE £289.98 EX.VAT £347.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £455.98 INC.VAT

Clarke WARRIOR 55 AIR COMPRESSOR (110V)
• 9cfm air displacement • 50 litre air receiver (CE certified) • 2.5hp, 110V motor with thermal overload protection • 10 bar (145psi) maximum working pressure • Dimensions (LWH): 720x306x593mm • Product Weight: 26.7kg

CLEARANCE £189.98 EX.VAT £227.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £311.98 INC.VAT

Clarke 1KVA INVERTER GENERATOR - IG1000
• A lightweight, low noise generator with Pure Sine Wave Technology • 850 Watts continuous output at 230V AC via 13 Amp 3-pin socket • 12V, 8.3 Amp DC output for charging 12V batteries.

CLEARANCE £179.98 EX.VAT £215.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £287.98 INC.VAT

Clarke DEVIL 3150 PROPANE FIRED SPACE HEATER
• Ideal for large workshops and warehouses • Variable output 200,000 - 344,000 Btu/hr (approx. 58.5 to 100kW) • Dimensions (LWH) 1075x420x565mm

CLEARANCE £349.98 EX.VAT £419.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £563.98 INC.VAT

Clarke CAST IRON STOVE -BARREL
CLEARANCE £154.99 EX.VAT £185.99 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £250.80 INC.VAT

• Wood and coal burning stove for efficient heating • 20,000Btu heat output • Dims (WDH) 410x410x505mm

Clarke 300MM PETROL DISC CUTTER - DPC6430
• 300mm blade diameter • 300mm blade diameter • Max cutting depth 100mm • 4.5HP • Max wheel speed 5,100RPM • 1.1 ltr fuel tank • Electronic ignition

CLEARANCE £289.00 EX.VAT £346.80 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £718.80 INC.VAT

Clarke DEVIL 4000 400,000 BTU PROPANE GAS FIRED SPACE HEATER
• Variable output 250,000 – 400,000 BTU/HR (70 – 131 kW) • Fuel safety cut out in the event of overheat, flame or power failure • Approved to British and European Standards • Durable painted steel finish • Dimensions (LWH): 1060x405x620mm - Weight: 21kg

CLEARANCE £279.98 EX.VAT £335.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £479.98 INC.VAT

Clarke CIS1212 INSTANT WORKSHOP/ SHED 12X12FT
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CLEARANCE £149.98 EX.VAT £179.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £251.98 INC.VAT

Clarke TIGER 1700 PETROL PRESSURE WASHER
• Maximum 110 bar (1595 psi) pressure • Maximum working flow rate 6 l/min • 2.6 HP petrol engine • Dimensions (LWH) 425x320x428mm • Weight 17.45kg

CLEARANCE £129.98 EX.VAT £155.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £215.98 INC.VAT

Clarke 4 STROKE PETROL GENERATOR - G1200
• Air cooled 4 stroke petrol engine - 1100W maximum power output / 1000W continuous output • 12V battery charging facility (12V DC @ 8.3 amps) • Standard 230V (13 amp) 3 pin socket • Quiet running - 68dBA at 7m (1/4 load)

CLEARANCE £119.98 EX.VAT £143.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £191.98 INC.VAT

airmaster TIGER 11/510 2.5HP 50 LITRE AIR COMPRESSOR
CLEARANCE £109.98 EX.VAT £131.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £179.98 INC.VAT

• 230V - 2.5hp, 50Hz Motor • 50 Litre Air Receiver • 9.5cfm Air Displacement • 8bar (116psi) Maximum Operating Pressure • Wheel Mounted • Dimensions (LWH): 720x390x700mm - Weight: 34kg

Clarke JET 8000 180BAR PRESSURE WASHER
• 2400W Power • 6 l/min (400 l/hr) Flow rate • Wheel mounted for easy movement • 0.5 Litre detergent tank • Built in auto stop facility • Dimensions (L x W x H): 280x348 x640mm - Weight: 18.35kg

CLEARANCE £99.98 EX.VAT £119.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £167.98 INC.VAT

Clarke JUMP START 1224
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CLEARANCE £89.98 EX.VAT £107.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £155.98 INC.VAT

Clarke JET 7000 PRESSURE WASHER
CLEARANCE £89.98 EX.VAT £107.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £155.98 INC.VAT

• Power Rating 1800W, Max pump 1450 psi / 100 bar • 6.5 Litres / min water flow (390 ltr/hour) • Integral 1.4l detergent tank • Dims (LWH) 470x320x805mm. • Weight 14.2kg

Clarke CLARKE ½" SQUARE DRIVE AIR IMPACT WRENCH - CAT23C
• Max torque 230ft/lb • Operating pressure 6.2bar • Average air consumption 4cfm • Requires minimum 10mm bore air hose

CLEARANCE £18.99 EX.VAT £22.79 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £35.98 INC.VAT

Clarke CORDLESS IMPACT WRENCH - CIR450
• Powerful 24V, 1.7Ah Ni-Cd battery • 1/2" square drive • Max torque delivery 450Nm • Speed (no load): 2000rpm

CLEARANCE £89.98 EX.VAT £107.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £143.98 INC.VAT

Clarke CTC500B MECHANICS STEEL TOOL CABINET
• Weight 38kg Max drawer load 19kg. Can be used with CTC900B 9 drawer tool chest. • Dimensions - (WDH) 615x330x665mm (675x335x770mm when fully assembled with castors & handle) • Robust steel construction throughout with a tough red powder coat finish.

CLEARANCE £89.98 EX.VAT £107.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £143.98 INC.VAT

Clarke CLARKE AIR COMPRESSOR - RANGER 46
• 7.8cfm air displacement • 24 litre CE certified receiver • 2.0hp 230v motor • Automatic pressure switch controlled • 8 Bar (115psi) maximum working pressure • Dimensions (LWH) 585x285x595mm

CLEARANCE £89.98 EX.VAT £107.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £131.98 INC.VAT

airmaster TIGER 8/44 AIR COMPRESSOR
• Superb Air Compressor for DIY & semi-professional use • 7.8cfm air displacement • 8 bar max. working pressure • 24ltr air receiver • 2HP, 230v motor

CLEARANCE £79.98 EX.VAT £95.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £119.98 INC.VAT

Clarke UNIVERSAL MITRE SAW STAND - CUTS 1
• Height adjustable support from 614mm to 900mm • Width adjustable material support arms from 1160mm to 1899mm • Supports up to 125kg • Min & max. table dimensions - (LWH) 1160x608x614mm & 1899x608x900mm

CLEARANCE £54.99 EX.VAT £65.99 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £92.39 INC.VAT

Clarke 720W PETROL GENERATOR - G720
• 720W maximum power output • 12V battery charging facility • Air cooled 2 stroke engine • 6.5 running hours @ 3/4 load • 230V AC (13 amp) socket • Anti-vibration rubber feet, carry handle & recoil starter • Dimensions (LWH): 380x312x362mm • Weight 17kg

CLEARANCE £62.99 EX.VAT £75.59 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £107.98 INC.VAT

Clarke JUMP START 1000
• Has the capacity to start petrol & diesel engines up to 3 litres • 230v mains charger and 12v adaptor for in-vehicle charging • Includes handy work light

CLEARANCE £54.99 EX.VAT £65.99 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £89.99 INC.VAT

Clarke OIL FREE RIVET GUN - CPR2
• Operating pressure 6.2bar • Average air consumption 4cfm • Complete with 4 nozzles to accept rivets up to 4.8mm

CLEARANCE £44.99 EX.VAT £53.99 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £89.99 INC.VAT

Clarke CONTRACTOR ROUTER - CR2
• Powerful heavy duty machine ideal for trade use • Depth & spindle lock feature • Durable carry case • Includes 15 piece router bit set in wooden box

CLEARANCE £74.99 EX.VAT £89.99 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £131.98 INC.VAT

Clarke CIR220 24V CORDLESS IMPACT WRENCH
• Maximum torque delivery 220Nm • ½" square drive for quick and easy socket change • Speed 2000 RPM - Impacts/Min 2700 • Fast 1 hr charging • Comfortable, ergonomically shaped handle. • Includes 4 common sized sockets – 17, 19, 21 & 23mm

CLEARANCE £69.98 EX.VAT £83.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £107.98 INC.VAT

Clarke CAT232 14PCE AIR IMPACT WRENCH & RATCHET SET
• Max. torque (wrench) 230ft/lb, (ratchet) 50ft/lb • Operating pressure 6.2bar • Nominal air consumption 4cfm

CLEARANCE £43.99 EX.VAT £52.79 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £77.99 INC.VAT

Clarke FBC1 FOLDING BOX TRUCK
• Made from a strong rust free materials • Opens up or folds flat in seconds • Rubber tyred wheels for smooth silent running • Holding capacity 1.5 ft³ Internal container dimensions (fully open) LWH 320x400x350mm

CLEARANCE £1.99 EX.VAT £2.39 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £22.80 INC.VAT

Clarke 2KW OIL FILLED RADIATOR WITH TIMER - OFR 9/200
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CLEARANCE £32.99 EX.VAT £39.59 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £53.99 INC.VAT

Clarke PUDDLE PUMP - PSP125
CLEARANCE £57.99 EX.VAT £69.59 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £101.99 INC.VAT

• 293 Watt, 230V motor • 125 ltr/min max flow rate • Max head height 10.2m • Pumps to only 2 to 3mm off the floor! • 10m long power cable • Tough durable build • Please note - Only suitable for use with clean water

Clarke WOOD TURNING LATHE - CWL1000
CLEARANCE £159.98 EX.VAT £191.98 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £310.80 INC.VAT

• High quality cast iron build • Includes tool rest, tail stock, drive centre, face plate, 3 chisels, copy attachment and robust steel stand • Dimensions (LxWxH): 1425x213x346mm

Clarke HEAVY DUTY ½" DRIVE AIR IMPACT WRENCH - CAT81
• Max. torque 280ft/lb • Operating pressure 6.2bar • Air consumption 4.2cfm • 4 power settings • Requires minimum 10mm (3/8") bore air hose

CLEARANCE £48.99 EX.VAT £58.79 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £83.98 INC.VAT

Clarke JETSTAR PRESSURE WASHER - 1900
• Maximum 135 bar (1957 psi) pressure, Max temperature inlet 40°C • Maximum working flow rate 5.5 litres/min (330 litres/hour) • 2000 Watt, 240/230V motor

CLEARANCE £57.99 EX.VAT £69.59 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £95.98 INC.VAT

Clarke ARC / TIG 131 POWER INVERTER
• Variable current output - 5 to 130 Amps DC. • Strong ventilated steel housing with turbo fan cooling. • Power input 230V, 1ph up to 5.7kW • 313x152x200mm (DxWxH)

CLEARANCE £114.99 EX.VAT £137.99 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £191.98 INC.VAT

Clarke 13 PIECE ½" DR AIR IMPACT WRENCH SET - CAT231B
CLEARANCE £27.99 EX.VAT £33.59 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £47.98 INC.VAT

• Max torque 230ft/lb • Operating pressure 6.2bar • Average air consumption 4cfm • 9-27mm with 5mm extension bar • Supplied in a tough moulded case • Requires minimum 10mm bore air hose

Clarke AIR DIE GRINDER KIT - CAT98
• Operating pressure up to 6.2bar (90psi). • Nominal air consumption - 8cfm. • Maximum speed - 20,000rpm. • All supplied complete in moulded storage / carry case with 10 oxide grinding stones and both 1/8" and ¼" attachment collets.

CLEARANCE £12.99 EX.VAT £15.59 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £29.99 INC.VAT

Clarke GT3 TOWABLE GARDEN TROLLEY WITH REMOVABLE LINER
• Maximum load 150kg • Sturdy steel construction with mesh platform & fold down sides • Heavy duty woven polyester liner • 260mm dia. pneumatic tyres for easy movement • Overall Dimensions (LWH) 1115x540x560mm (excluding handle)

CLEARANCE £64.99 EX.VAT £77.99 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £101.98 INC.VAT

Clarke PISTOL GRIP NEEDLE SCALER & HAMMER KIT - CAT84
• Nominal air consumption 4cfm • Max speed 4500 blows/minute • One piece alloy steel barrel • Includes 3 chisels, 1 taper punch & spring retainer • Length of piston stroke 40mm

CLEARANCE £21.99 EX.VAT £26.39 INC.VAT
NORMAL PRICE* £39.59 INC.VAT

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Voters in city youth elections top 9,000

AROUND 9,000 votes were cast in a city's youth elections.

A total of 27 young people stood for office in Wolverhampton in a bid to take their first steps on the long road Westminster.

Now the 2014-15 youth MPs and youth councillors have been officially announced at a special ceremony at the city's council chamber.

Elected as members of the Youth Parliament were Heath Park School student Kashmire Hawker, aged 16, from Low Hill and Arnold Majecha, aged 14, who attends South Wolverhampton and Bilston Academy.

Interests

The duo will represent the interests of the city's youngsters at meetings throughout the year and also attend an annual session at the House of Commons.

Meanwhile, Kelsey Edwards and Paul Kazadi were named deputy MPs, while 11 young people from across the city were elected as youth Councillors.

They are: Cameron Peart, Ebony Haycock, Talisha McDonald, Jacob Bloomer, Tanya Kasinganeti, Alisha Chumbar, Sana Malik, Adam Martin, Javaughn Spencer, Pamela Chibanguza and Madison Hughes.

They were selected after 9,084 votes were cast by youngsters from the city.

Creche set to close after losing £30k in one year

A CRÈCHE at a leisure centre in Wolverhampton is closing after it was revealed it was losing almost £30,000 a year.

An average of just three children per day were using the crèche at the Bert Williams Leisure Centre, which opened in December 2011. Most of the children were using the crèche for a short time, while parents used facilities at the centre.

by Jon Pritchard

Council figures show that the council lost more than £29,000 on the crèche in 2012/13.

Councillors from Wolverhampton City Council's cabinet agreed to close the service in a bid to save money and make the leisure centre more commercially viable.

Subsidy

Tim Clark, spokesman for Wolverhampton City Council, said: "The crèche at Bert Williams Centre was poorly used and only generated £1,258 of income in 2012/2013. "It cost us £31,000 a year to run the crèche, so it just wasn't viable.

"The cabinet agreed last month to close the crèche as part of agreeing overall plans to reduce the subsidy paid to the city's leisure centres and secure their long-term future."

The move comes as the cash-strapped council battles to save £123 million over five years.

It was revealed last month that the council's two other leisure centres, Aldersley Leisure Village and Central Baths, would be run more commercially after original plans to close Central Baths was met with anger from the public.

A petition with more than 6,000 names had been handed in to the city council against the proposed closure. But last month Councillor Elias Mattu announced a new plan which would help safeguard the Central Baths.

The strategy hopes to boost the number of visitors to the baths, which is the most heavily subsidised of the leisure centres.

It includes revamping the reception area at the Bath Avenue centre, offering swimming lessons for children for 50 weeks rather than 39 weeks and refurbishing the changing rooms.

Flower club call to new members

Chairman Maureen Cooper, third from left, speaker at flower club luncheon

A FLOWER arranging club has been praised for the way it brings its members together through an annual luncheon.

The Wolverhampton Flower Arrangement Club held its annual chairman's lunch at The Horns of Boningale, in Holyhead Road, Albrighton, welcoming 43 members and guests to a three-course lunch.

Guest of honour Anita Wright, area chairman of Mercia and North Wales National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies, told members that the luncheon was a good way to keep members socially active.

She added that she would be putting forward the idea of an annual lunch to other flower clubs.

Club chairman Maureen Cooper said: "It's a wonderful way to spend an afternoon. We are a friendly club and very welcoming."

The club, which meets on the third Thursday of every month at 2.30pm at The Newman Centre in Tettenhall, is looking to attract new members.

For more information, call 01902 700484.

NEWS in brief

'Make it or bake it' market special

A NEW market will be launched this month. Tettenhall in Wolverhampton will host its first ever Make It or Bake It market .

The free event will take place from 10am on May 11 at Upper Green. Stalls will be available offering arts and crafts, homemade local produce, textiles, collectibles, pickles and foods from around the world.

Horticulture experts will also be on hand offering advice and there will be live entertainment.

Visitors can take part in Tettenhall College's unique Bluebell Walk (£1for adults, children free).

Free parking is available at the pool or behind the shops. Anyone wishing to take part can e-mail: info@tettenhall.co.uk

Daffodils grow charity coffers

STUDENTS in Wolverhampton have been brightening up their school and raising cash for charity at the same time.

Youngsters from Elston Hall Primary School have been growing daffodils to help raise money for Marie Curie Cancer Care. T he school was approached by the charity to carry out fundraising work and as well as growing the bright yellow flowers, the pupils have also been selling daffodil pin badges.

They have raised more than £400 in a month.

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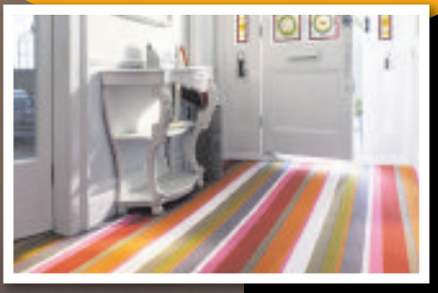

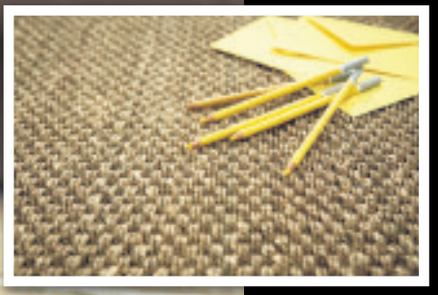

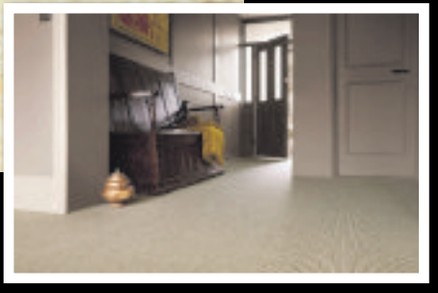

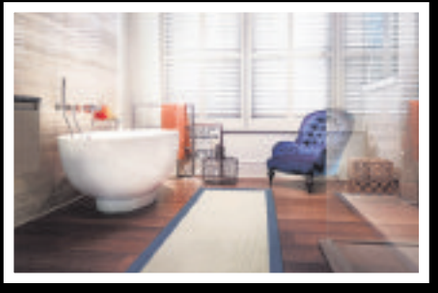

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Photoshop	06/05/2014	Tuesday	6.30-8.30	6 Weeks	£30.00
Computers for Senior Citizens	9/05/2014	Friday	1.30–3.30	10 weeks	£45.00
Computers for Senior Citizens	9/05/2014	Friday	3.30-5.30	10 weeks	£45.00
Mastering Your Android Phone or Tablet	September 2014	Thursday	7.00-9.00	6 Weeks	£40.00
Using E Bay to Buy and Sell	September 2014	Wednesday	7.00-9.00	4 Weeks	£30.00
ARTS & CRAFTS					
Face Painting	07/05/2014	Wednesday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£50.00
Flower Arranging - Beginners	12/05/2014	Monday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£45.00
Flower Arranging – Improvers	07/05/2014	Wednesday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£45.00
Flower Arranging for Brides on a Budget	14/06/2014	Saturday	9.00-12.00	1 Day	£45.00
Costume Design	08/05/2014	Thursday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£45.00
Fashion Sewing	06/05/2014	Tuesday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£45.00
Cake Decorating and Sugarcraft - Beginners	06/05/2014	Tuesday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£45.00
Cake Decorating & Sugarcraft - Improvers	03/06/2014	Tuesday	7.00-9.00	6 Weeks	£30.00
Jewellery Making - Improvers	06/05/2014	Tuesday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£45.00
Jewellery Making - Beginners	07/05/2014	Wednesday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£45.00
Soft Furnishing	07/05/2014	Wednesday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£45.00
Black Country Crafts	07/05/2014	Wednesday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£45.00
Art – How to Draw and Paint	09/05/2014	Friday	9.45-11.45	10 weeks	£45.00
Art – How to Draw and Paint	09/05/2014	Friday	12.00-2.00	10 weeks	£45.00
Art – Drawing Masterclass	July 2014	TBA	10.00-4.00	1 Day	£30.00
Art – Acrylics Masterclass	July 2014	TBA	10.00-4.00	1 Day	£30.00
Art - Portraiture	September 2014	Wednesday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£55.00
Stained Glass – A Beginners Course	September 2014	Thursday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£55.00
MUSIC					
Guitar Beginners	08/05/2014	Thursday	6.00-7.00	10 Weeks	£22.50
Guitar – Follow On	07/05/2014	Wednesday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£45.00
	08/05/2014	Thursday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£45.00
BEAUTY					
Gel manicures, Pedicures & Market your own business:	12/05/2014	Monday	5.30-7.15	10 Weeks	£50.00
Deluxe Manicures, Pedicures & Market your own business	12/05/2014	Monday	7.30-9.15	10 Weeks	£50.00
Beauty - Bridal Make-up and Skincare	13/05/2014	Tuesday	7.30-9.15	10 Weeks	£50.00
Beauty – prom Make-up and Skincare	13/05/2014	Tuesday	5.30-7.15	10 Weeks	£50.00
LANGUAGES					
Sign Language Level 1 award in BSL	September 2014	Monday	7.00-9.00	35 weeks	£250.00
Sign Language Level 2 award in BSL	September 2014	Thursday	7.00-9.00	53 Weeks	£375.00
Introduction to Sign Language	September 2014	Monday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£60.00
Spanish – Beginners, Entry Level 1	12/05/2014	Monday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£45.00
Spanish – follow on Entry level 2	06/05/2014	Tuesday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£45.00
WRITING					
Creative Writing	8/05/2014	Thursday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£45.00
BUSINESS					
Start Your own Business	10/05/2014	Saturday	9.30-11.30	10 Weeks	£50
Stock Market Trading	7/05/2014	Wednesday	7.00-9.00	4 Weeks	£25
	11/06/2014	Wednesday	7.00-9.00	4 Weeks	£25
DANCE					
Strictly Latin & Salsa	08/05/2014	Thursday	7.00-9.00	6 Weeks	£30.00
Belly Dance for Beginners	9/05/2014	Friday	6.15-7.15	10 Weeks	£25.00
Black Sheep Belly Dance – Level 2	9/05/2014	Friday	7.30-9.00	10 Weeks	£35.00
KEEP FIT					
Gentle Keep Fit	06/05/2014	Tuesday	9.45-11.00	10 Weeks	£30.00
Zumba	06/05/2014	Tuesday	11.15-12.15	10 Weeks	£25.00
HISTORY					
History	08/05/2014	Thursday	7.00-9.00	10 Weeks	£45.00

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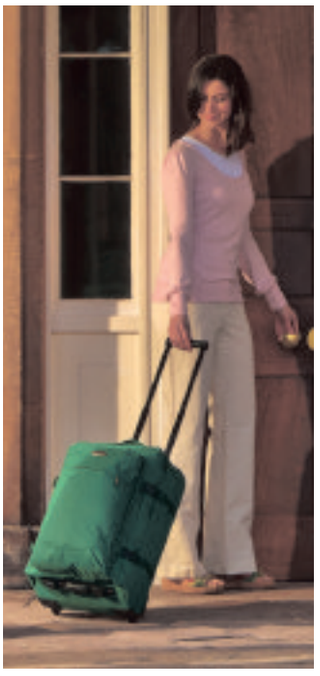

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Jersey

all for £339

5 Day Coach Holiday

Steeped in history with stunning unspoilt scenery and a wealth of attractions. Jersey is a beautiful, relaxing island with its own style, atmosphere and warm climate.

Price includes: 4 nights hotel, dinner, bed & breakfast, coach travel & trips out. *S.S. £23*

Coach departs: **Sunday 2nd June £339**

Look What's Included...

Day 1: On the first day we drive down to Weymouth (or sometimes Poole) in Dorset to board the Condor ferry to Jersey. Here you part company with the GBTours' coach as coaches from the mainland aren't allowed on the Island. Once we arrive at Jersey Port our group will be met by Waverley Coaches of Jersey who will transfer us to our hotel in St. Clement. Settle-into your ensuite room and look forward to dinner later.
Day 2: After breakfast, we've arranged a lovely day out for you by coach from the hotel. Waverley coaches will collect our party at 10am and take you on a 'round the Island' tour and return to our hotel around 1:30pm.
Days 3 & 4: 2 days are left so you can spend your time on Jersey as you wish. Relax in the hotel grounds, soak up the Sun around the outdoor Pool or on the beach opposite the hotel.
Day 5: After a last, hearty breakfast - it's time to go home. Waverley coaches will transfer you to the Condor ferry terminal for our sailing back to the mainland. When you arrive back in Weymouth (or Poole) the GBTours coach will take you home.

Hotel Ambassaduer, St Clements Bay ★★★
Facing south and catching the sun from dawn till dusk, this good-quality sea-facing hotel, just a mile from St Helier, overlooks the fine sweep of St Clements Bay with its clean sandy beach.

Ilfracombe

for just £229

5 Day Coach Holiday

The jewel in the north Devon coastline with its stunning harbour and old world charm. Restaurants, cafes, tea gardens and pubs give it a vibrant 'continental' feel...

Price includes: 4 nights hote, dinner, bed & breakfast, coach travel & trips out. *S.S. £23*

Coach departs: **Monday 12th May £229**

Look What's Included...

DAY 1: A leisurely drive down to Devon - arriving at the hotel late afternoon with time to settle-in before dinner.
DAY 2: After breakfast we have a trip to the pretty village of Appledore and then on to the market town of Barnstaple, where there's time to browse the historic Pannier Market for Devon specialties.
DAY 3: Full day out - into Exmoor National Park stopping at the twin villages of Lynton and Lynmouth. Lynton is a bright airy Victorian village located on the headland overlooking the Ocean while Lynmouth is a pretty harbour that nestles quietly beneath the cliffs. A unique water operated cliff railway dating back to 1890 joins the village of Lynton to it s sister village of Lynmouth, 500ft below. The railway is a listed monument and is one of the area's most popular tourist attractions. A return ticket is included so you can visit both pretty places and enjoy a fabulous view in-between.
DAY 4:: We thought we'd let you get your breath back today - perhaps you'd like to explore Ilfracombe at your own pace.
DAY 5: travelling home, with a suitable comfort/meal stop on the way back.

Osborne Hotel Ilfracombe
The Hotel itself is ideally situated to explore Ilfracombe, it has been owned by the Cox Family for over 36 years and has 53 en suite bedrooms, a ballroom, dining room, bar lounge, sauna, and a small games room. All areas of the Hotel are personally run by a member the family to ensure your stay is a pleasant one.

Ireland

Co. Waterford, Cork and Kilkenny

all only £209

5 Day Holiday to Ireland

2 sightseeing days out included.
Staying at Lawlors Hotel in Dungarvan...

Price includes: 4 nights, dinner, bed & breakfast, coach travel & trips out. *S.S. £60*

Look What's Included...

Day 1: Join our coach this morning on a leisurely journey into South Wales as we head for Fishguard and board the 2:30pm Ferry to Rosslare in Southern Ireland. Arrive in good time for dinner and a relaxing first evening in Ireland.
Day 2: A trip to the city of Kilkenny. On the way we travel through the beautiful scenery of the Nire Valley region.
Day 3: A trip to Ireland's third city of Cork which is fascinating city and important sea port. On the way to Cork we also stop in Cobh (pronounced 'Cove') A nice, quiet coastal town with a beautiful Cathedral. Cobh is famous as the last port of call of the Titanic on its maiden voyage in 1912.
Day 4: Today is left free so you have a chance to explore Dungarvan at your own pace.
Day 5: We leave after an early breakfast and catch the 9am ferry from Rosslare back to Fishguard then continue home to your original joining point.

Lawlors Hotel, Dungarvan ★★★
Lawlors Hotel is situated in the heart of the historic town of Dungarvan and near local shops and sights. 94 bedrooms with full facilities, well-presented reception, restaurant and bar/lounge.

Coach departs: **Monday 26th May £209**

Blackpool Show!

all only £129

2 Day Coach Mini Break

See the Award Winning Musical **'Mamma Mia'** at the Blackpool Opera House, inspired by the songs of ABBA. ***PLUS... The Trafford Centre - 'shop to you drop' or simply enjoy a spot of lunch...***

Look What's Included...

Day 1: Meet our coach this morning as we travel to Blackpool. We arrive in time for you to have a spot of lunch before making our way to watch the afternoon performance a Mamma Mia, we've reserved top price seats!
Later go on to our 4 star hotel for 3 course dinner & overnight stay
Day 2: Enjoy a hearty breakfast *(or there's plenty of lighter options too)*. After breakfast we leave our hotel and make our way to The Trafford Centre where you'll have plenty of time to look around the shops and have lunch. We leave around 3pm and head for home.

Price includes: 1 night hotel, 3 course dinner, bed & breakfast, coach & ticket to the matinee show. *S.S. £28*

Hilton Hotel, Blackpool ★★★★
This central Blackpool hotel near Blackpool Tower. With spacious rooms, WiFi, enjoy complimentary access to the Living Well Health Club during your stay. Swim in the heated pool, work out in the fitness centre or de-stress in the relaxing sauna.

Coach departs: **Sunday 27th July £129**

Lincoln

2 Day Coach Mini Break

amazing value! £79

Take a trip to the delightful city of Lincoln. Steeped in history, dating back to Roman times coupled with a range of shops, restaurants, bars and tea rooms.

Itinerary:

Day 1: Join the coach to drive to Lincolnshire, half way we stop for a nice coffee, we arrive in Lincoln around lunchtime. The coach will set down in the town centre and you'll have plenty of free time to explore. leaving at 4:30pm to check in for a comfortable evening including dinner.
Day 2: After breakfast, we head for the charming market town of Chesterfield in the Peak District. Chesterfield's ancient and colourful market is on today. Don't miss the town's famous crooked spire of the Church of St. Mary and the Museum on St. Mary's Gate very close to the Church is well worth a visit. Later we leave for home.

Price includes: 1 nights hotel, dinner, bed & breakfast, coach travel & trips out. *S.S. £20*

Coach departs: **Sunday 18th May & 28th Sept £79**

Lakes Mini Break

amazing value! £94

2 Day Coach Mini Break

Enjoy a Mini Break to the Lake District visiting the charming village of Cartmel on the way to our hotel. Stay overnight in a lovely 3 star hotel and next day enjoy a ride on the Haverthwaite Steam Railway and a cruise on Lake Windermere...

Itinerary:

Day 1: Journey north towards the Lake District. Once in Cumbria our first stop is in the charming Lake District village of Cartmel. Then we go on to our hotel, Shap wells.
Day 2: A special day in the Lake District. First we make our way to Haverthwaite Railway Station and board a train for a short journey through the beautiful scenery of the Leven Valley to Lakeside. After a short time in Lakeside we board a boat for a 40 minute cruise on stunning Lake Windermere.

Price includes: coach travel, hotel with dinner & breakfast, train and boat fare. *S.S. £10*

Coach departs: **Sun 15th June, 31st Aug & 19th Oct £94**

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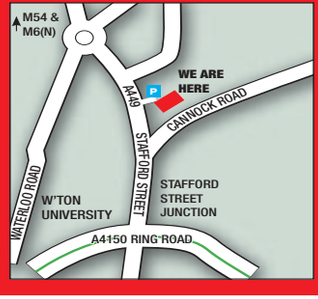


Members given blind centre tour

TRYSULL & SEISDON

PRESIDENT Sue Cotterell welcomed members and visitors to the April meeting.

Linda Jackson was congratulated on coming first in the Floral Art competition at SFWI show at Lichfield.

Those that visited the Beacon Centre for the Blind had a very informative and enjoyable time.

Peter Moodie gave a tour and and there was the chance to see the various crafts and activities that are available for people who are blind or partially sighted.

Peter demonstrated some of the aids that can help give them more confidence and independence. There is a hair salon, coffee shop and a café, all of which are open to the public.

Speaker was Peter Hawthorne who has written a book about the Dickin medal, the animal Victoria Cross. It was established in 1943 by Maria Dickin, the founder of the PDSA and to date 63 animals have won it.

These include Rip who was found by an ARP warden, cowering in an air-raid shelter in East London during the Blitz. One of several pigeons to win the award during the war was Winkie, who was on board a Beaufort bomber which was badly damaged and plunged into the North Sea.

Other winners include Roselle a guide dog for the blind who led her master and other people to safety after the September 2011 attacks and Simon a cat who was aboard HMS Amethyst when it was held hostage in 1949 on the Yangtze River.

Cheque is handed over to MS Centre

Christine Husbands collects the cheque from SI President Parkash

SI WOLVERHAMPTON

AT the February meeting of Wolverhampton Soroptimists President Parkash welcomed Regional President Edna Shafter Hughes who gave an interesting insight into her life, German connections and involvement in Soroptimist International.

In February, Parkash had visited the Multiple Sclerosis Centre, Newbridge to view the new extension and refurbishment of the building and learn of the new extra sessions they were hoping to be able to cater for, on demand.

In March following an enjoyable meal at the Lindens, President Parkash invited Christine Husbands of the Multiple Sclerosis Centre to receive a cheque for £1,200 to use at the centre to improve conditions and refurbishments. The money had been collected from a number of events during the year.

The club had lengthy discussions on the 'Format for the Future', in which many interesting points were raised.

Talk given on castle's history

BLACK COUNTRY

MAX Keen was the speaker at the last meeting of the Kingswinford Branch held in St Mary's Church Hall.

Max is a local primary school teacher and gives many talks in the area, including the annual Bromsgrove Festival. He spoke about 'The History of Dudley Castle, 1071-1932'.

He made a grand entrance in period costume and showed samples of chain mail, swords, protection helmets and shields and other artefacts.

He described the castle buildings for the very early days and in the 1530s the castle was only rivalled by Hampton Court. Over the years buildings were added and the grounds were scenes of spectacular events.

Max is an entertaining speaker and makes history come to life. His talk was very well received.

On May 21 Dr Chris Upton will be the speaker.

Been away too long – and it really did show

Frank Skinner, Civic Hall, Wolverhampton

HE'S been away from stand-up for six or seven years, and at times it was evident, sadly,

Black Country comic Skinner was given a rousing welcome in his return to both the stage and to the region. Football banter immediately ensued with the Albion fan even congratulating Wolves on their return to the Championship.

His own team didn't escape, however, as he quipped that his show was 94 minutes long and the reason why. "It starts off well until the very last minute when it's no good – like Pepe Mel!"

These days, Skinner's a changed man, and it showed. He dresses up on stage for 'The Man In A Suit' tour and, now that he's grown up and more mature, claims to be more sophisticated.

Tales of shopping in Fortnum & Mason and living by London's South Bank would have hardly endeared himself to the masses. It was hit and miss throughout and there was plenty of audience interaction.

Skinner's use of haiku poetry was very clever. But it was when he reverted to his laddish, uncouth persona that we all know and love that the gig picked up.

The routine including stories of rows with his partner and dating, but some, like jokes about Stuart Hall and Shakin Stevens, were a little below the belt.

MARK SHIPP

Sparkly dress and another sparkling performance by Torvill and Dean

Golden Ray shines at stunning ice farewell

Reviews

Dancing On Ice The Final Tour, Birmingham NIA

WELL the mighty Quinn has done it again! The TV champion of champions wowed the audience during the Dancing On Ice Final Tour opening night at Birmingham's NIA and waltzed away with the trophy.

This cool customer Ray Quinn proved more than once that nothing is too much for this master of the ice. The judges, Robin Cousins, Karen Barber and Nicky Slater were as overawed as the packed NIA.

This tour has proved very popular but is the end of an ice skating era. No more being glued to televisions on Sunday night and waiting for the tour to bring the stars to a city near you. This may be the end but what a way to go out on Bolero's 30th anniversary as Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean again showed why they have reigned as the king and queen of ice for so long.

As the show started there was a warning of firejets and it soon became clear it was going to be explosive night. The first dance By Torvill and Dean was to The Best Is Yet To Come and they were quite right.

The celebrities – Kyran Bracken, Gareth Gates, Bonnie Langford, Joe Pasquale, Suzanne Shaw, Hayley Tamaddon, Beth Tweedle and of course Ray – danced for the votes in the first half and the atmosphere was electric with perfect 10s for Kyran and Ray. But after the public vote it was Ray who came out tops with Hayley close on his heels and Kyran third. Over nine years the text votes have raised £150,000 for charity.

Two giant screens took us on a journey with Torvill and Dean as they talked of how they got into skating and the thrill of the gold medal at the 1984 Winter Olympics.

Competition over, it was time for the thrills and fun. The thrills came from the professional dancers with their daring routines. Then Joe was back on the ice to give us all a 'beginner's skating lesson'. After claiming it was easier for the women skaters as they did not have to do the lifts he promptly stripped off to reveal a skimpy pink sparkly dress and persuaded a very reluctant professional male dancer to accompany him.

Of course the finale was left for Torvill and Dean to perform once again their stunning Bolero routine which brought the crowd to their feet. The Final tour but what a way to go out! SUE ATTWATER

star extra TRAVEL

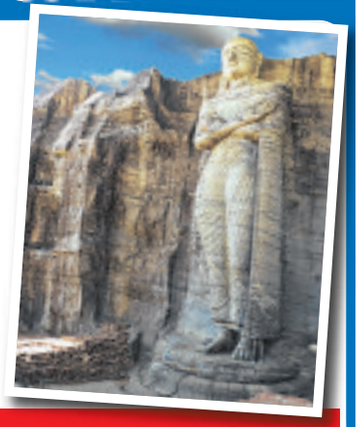
Sri Lanka

Join this comprehensive tour and discover the delights of old Ceylon with its sacred caves, ancient temples and lost cities, ending with two days relaxing on one of Sri Lanka's idyllic tropical beaches. Travel on return scheduled flights from London Heathrow and stay in charming hand-picked three-star hotels, with daily breakfast and dinner included.

One of the first adventures on the itinerary is the famous Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage which boasts a herd of over 75 animals from matriarchs to calves and their daily bath in the river provides a stunning photo opportunity.

Some of the other included tours are to the 600 foot granite tower called Sigiriya, or the Lion Rock, known for its ancient murals of 'cloud maidens'; to Kandy, Sri Lanka's last Royal capital; to the amazing cave temples of Dambulla, a UN World Heritage site; and to a well-known tea estate and spice garden, staying at the four-star Grand Hotel, originally the summer home of one of the Governors of Ceylon.

For a different sort of experience, two nights are reserved at the Safari Hotel, which has a pool, bar and restaurant overlooking the Tiffa Lake. Just 45 minutes from the Yala National Park this is the base for an early morning start to the jeep safari in the hope of seeing leopard, elephants, saltwater crocodiles, wild boar, sloth bears, monitor lizards and a huge variety of birdlife. The three-star superior Palms Hotel in the beach resort of Beruwela is the final port of call, allowing for two days of rest and relaxation before the journey home.



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Puppet show is for adults only

AWARD-WINNING puppet comedy musical Avenue Q will be visiting Birmingham.

A hit on Broadway and the West End, the adult comedy will be visiting the New Alexandra Theatre from September 16 to 20.

With naughty puppets brought to life by an ensemble cast of 11 performers, Avenue Q is a Tony Award-winning musical that first opened at New York's off-Broadway Vineyard Theatre in 2003, before transferring to Broadway later that year where it won three Tonys for Best Musical, Best Score and Best Book.

In 2006 it opened in the West End, where it ran for five years before touring.

More good news for Russell's fans

DUE to huge demand comedian Russell Howard has extended his sold-out arena tour into the autumn including an extra date in Birmingham.

The star of TV show Russell Howard's Good News will be returning to the LG Arena on December 21. Tickets are priced £31.50.

Comedy over the next week includes Wulfrun Hall shows for Josh Widdicombe tonight and Paul Chowdhry next Thursday. Jack Dee and the I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue radio show crew are at Birmingham Hippodrome on Sunday for two performances... with the lovely Samantha?

Paolo getting his new shoes ready as tour visits the Civic

Singing Sister Tasheka

TASHEKA Coe made it to the final 20 out of 9,000 aiming to become Andrew Lloyd Webber's next West End star in TV show Over The Rainbow.

Tasheka didn't get to walk down the Yellow Brick Road to star as Dorothy at the London Palladium but she is preparing for the lead role of Deloris Van Cartier in West Bromwich Operatic Society's production of Sister Act at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre next month.

The soul stirring comedy musical about a streetwise singer finding sanctuary from a gangster with an order of nuns was a hit movie in the 1990s with Whoopi Goldberg in the lead role. It later became a popular Broadway and West End show. The WBOS production of Sister Act will be at the Grand from May 13 to 17. For tickets call 01902 429212.

Tasheka Coe is starring in West Bromwich Operatic Society's production of Sister Act

IT has been a long wait but Scottish singer-songwriter Paolo Nutini is back with an acclaimed new album and a tour including a sold out concert at Wolverhampton Civic Hall on Friday, May 30.

The 27-year-old from Paisley, where his parents ran a fish and chip shop, made an instant impact in 2006 with his debut album These Streets, including the hits Last Request and New Shoes, and released his second, Sunny Side Up, three years later yielding the hits Pencil Full of Lead and 10/10.

Olympic

Since then not a lot of has been heard of the soulful singer, besides his singing appearance at the opening ceremony of the London 2012 Olympic Games, because Paolo has been on global travels "seeking adventure".

Now he is back with his Caustic Love album, including the single Scream (Funk My Life Up), which has won rave reviews.

Pick of the gigs over the forthcoming week include the return of Neil Finn, the former frontman of New Zealand bands Crowded House and Split Enz bringing his solo show to Birmingham Symphony Hall on Monday (£35).

Three time Grammy Award winner Ben Harper brings his Weissenborn guitar to the Symphony Hall on Tuesday (£32.50). Jethro Tull's Ian Anderson previews his new solo album at the same venue on May 1 (£30/£35).

Civic gig — Paolo Nutini

Blues rocker Larry Miller is at Bilston's Robin 2 tonight (£12 or £14 on the door), and the Mount Pleasant venue then hosts rising folk/pop band The Moulettes on Wednesday, April 30 (£8 or £10 on the door) with support from Scottish folk musician Kate Young.

So good that it is going wrong

AN awful whodunnit goes badly wrong to much comic effect in highly-rated new farce The Play That Goes Wrong, which is staged at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre from Tuesday to Saturday, May 3.

The cosmic boogie of glam rock star Marc Bolan and his band T Rex is celebrated in new musical 20th Century Boy at Birmingham New Alexandra Theatre Monday to Saturday.

The Birmingham International Dance Festival continues at Birmingham Hippodrome with the powerful Sideways Rain danced by the 14-strong Alias on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Masked theatre company Vamos bring Finding Joy to Wolverhampton's Arena Theatre tonight.

Rick's classical concept concert

A PROGRESSIVE rock landmark is revived on Tuesday when keyboard wizard Rick Wakeman celebrates the 40th anniversary of his classical-rock concept album Journey To The Centre Of The Earth, at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham.

Based on the science fiction novel by Jules Verne, the former Yes star will be teaming up with an orchestra for a new production of the show first performed at London's Royal Festival Hall in 1974. It will feature visuals by famed Yes album sleeve designer Roger Dean. Tickets cost £46.50 or £52.

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CHOICE

Tom Schilling

Generation War: Our Mothers, Our Fathers (BBC2, 9.30pm)

Usually, if you want a Saturday night fix of subtitled drama, you have to turn to BBC Four. But now BBC Two is getting in on the act as well with this new series, the first foreign language show to premiere on the channel since The Kingdom back in 2001. But it's not just the fact that the characters aren't speaking English that makes Generation War unusual – it's also exploring the Second World War from the perspectives of five German friends. It opens in Berlin, in the summer of 1941, as highly decorated officer Wilhelm prepares to be leave for the eastern front with his bookish younger brother Friedhelm. But it's their Jewish friend Viktor who appears to be facing the most uncertain future.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Nigellissima. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **12.45** Saturday Sportsday. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Live Snooker: The World Championship. The afternoon session on day eight at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield. **2.00** Live Challenge Cup Rugby League. Leeds Rhinos v St Helens (Kick-off 2.30pm). **4.30** Final Score. **5.20 Film:** Madagascar. (2005) Animated comedy, with the voice of Ben Stiller.

6.40 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

7.00 Pointless Celebrities. Alexander Armstrong hosts as contestants from the world of comedy take part in the game show. They are one-time Goodie Tim Brooke-Taylor, satirist John Bird, former sitcom actors Don Warrington, Ray Burdis and Robert Llewellyn, master of the hidden camera Dom Joly and stand-up stars Rhona Cameron and Richard Herring. Who'll be best when it comes to being worst? Richard Osman is the one with the answers.

7.50 The National Lottery: In It to Win It. Dale Winton presents the quiz in which five contestants pit their wits to scoop a big cash prize. Only those in the winners' row will have a chance of taking home the loot, so they will need to get all the answers right – as well as a little bit of luck on their side. Includes the Lotto and Thunderball draws, hosted by Kate Garraway.

8.40 Casualty. Dixie risks her job to take a patient to see his dying mother, while a woman's unusual birthday treat to herself lands her in hospital. Jan Francis and John Bowe guest star.

9.30 The Guess List. Harry Judd, Jason Manford, Carol Vorderman, Aled Jones and Kate Humble help contestants answer all sorts of everyday questions.

10.10 BBC News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League clashes, including Southampton v Everton at the St Mary's Stadium and Manchester United v Norwich City at Old Trafford; National Lottery Update.

11.50 The Football League Show. Manish Bhasin presents highlights and all the goals from today's fixtures in the Championship, League One and League Two, including Wigan Athletic v Blackpool.

1.10 Weatherview. **1.15** BBC News.

BBC2

6.05 Film: Caught. (1949) **7.30** Great British Menu. (R) **8.00** Great British Menu. (R) **8.30** Great British Menu. (R) **9.00** Great British Menu. (R) **9.30** Great British Menu. (R) **10.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. **12.00** Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge. (R) **12.45** Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge. (R) **1.30** Escape to the Country. (R) **2.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. **5.30** Mountain Gorilla. (R)

6.30 Flog It! Trade Secrets. Paul Martin and the show's experts offer more advice on making money from antiques and collectibles, with this edition focusing on rare and valuable tools.

7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. The third and final session on day eight at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, where another two second-round matches are set to take place, with one of them scheduled to conclude.

8.00 Porridge. Career criminal Fletch plans his escape while being escorted to jail by two prison warders. Pilot episode of the classic comedy, starring Ronnie Barker and Fulton Mackay. (R)

8.30 Mozart in Prague: Rolando Villazon on Don Giovanni. The tenor explores the premiere of Mozart's opera of 1787, studying the music and the social setting in which it was first performed, before authentically recreating the finale.

9.30 Generation War: Our Mothers, Our Fathers. New series. German drama following the stories of five friends as their lives take different paths during the Second World War. Volker Bruch and Tom Schilling star.

11.00 The Sarah Millican Television Programme. Sarah chats to Suzi Perry about F1 coverage, discusses Saturday night entertainment with Bruno Tonioli and talks magazine shows with Matt Baker and Alex Jones. Last in the series. (R)

11.30 Snooker: The World Championship. Jason Mohammad presents highlights of the concluding session on day eight at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, where another second-round match was scheduled to reach a climax.

12.20 Snooker: World Championship Extra. **2.20** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Dino Dan. **6.10** Dino Dan. (R) **6.25** Matt Hatter Chronicles. (R) **6.50** Canimals. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.05** Sooty. (R) **7.20** Digimon Fusion. (R) **7.45** Horrid Henry. (R) **8.00** Adventure Time. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25 Film:** Murder, She Wrote: South by Southwest. (1997) **11.10** Dinner Date. (R) **12.15** ITV News; Weather. **12.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **1.20** The Unforgettable Hughie Green. (R) **1.50** Tipping Point. (R) **2.50** All Star Family Fortunes. (R) **3.35** A Touch of Frost. (R) **5.35** Regional Programme ; Weather.**5.45** ITV News; Weather.

6.00 Let Me Entertain You. New series. Michael Underwood showcases viewers' dancing, singing and lip-synching clips alongside entertaining videos from the internet and hidden-camera surprises.

6.30 New You've Been Framed! Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of mishaps filmed by viewers, featuring everything from cute kids and crazy animals to pranks and painful-looking accidents.

7.00 Britain's Got Talent. Ant and Dec present the third audition show, as the judges – Simon Cowell, David Walliams, Amanda Holden and Alesha Dixon – hope to uncover more of the nation's talent.

8.15 Amazing Greys. Young contestants go head to head with old pros, including World Cup-winning England striker Geoff Hurst and golf ace Vivien Saunders. Paddy McGuinness and Angela Rippon host.

9.15 Law & Order: UK. When a series of shootings claims one of their own, Ronnie and Joe must solve the case before the killer reaches the next target – on a hit list that includes Henry Sharpe. (R)

10.15 The Americans. Kate relays orders for Philip to bug the Arpanet – the early version of the internet – to monitor US government communications, while Nina agrees to take the FBI's polygraph test.

11.15 ITV News; Weather.

11.30 Through the Keyhole. Keith Lemon invites actor Larry Lamb and former Spice Girl Emma Bunton to join Dave Berry on the panel as he noses around the homes of three mystery celebrities. (R)

12.30 Jackpot247. **3.00** Dinner Date: Australia. (R) **3.45** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.00 River Cottage Bites. (R) **6.15** Trans World Sport. **7.10** The Grid. **7.40** A Day at the Races. **7.55** The Morning Line. **9.00** Weekend Kitchen. **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.55** How I Met Your Mother. **11.25** How I Met Your Mother. **11.50** The Simpsons. (R) **12.20** The Simpsons. (R) **12.45** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. (R) **1.45** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Sandown Park, Haydock Park and Ripon. **4.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.40** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.15 Come Dine with Me. Merchant Navy officer Fiona Rush hosts the final dinner party in Belfast, hoping to impress with a nautical theme and fish dishes, before the winner is announced. (R)

6.45 Channel 4 News.

7.15 Grand Designs. Kevin McCloud meets Tamayo Hussey, who has missed Japan ever since she moved to the UK 14 years ago with her husband, quantum physics professor Nigel. The couple want to transform a 1960s forester's lodge into a unique Japanese house, complete with a tatami room – decorated in her homeland's traditional style – sliding paper walls and a bath on the roof. Keen to keep costs down, they have decided to engage only the design skills – rather than the full services – of an architect, so with no previous building experience they tackle the project alone. (R)

8.15 Film: Avatar. (2009) A paraplegic soldier uses technology that allows him to control a genetically engineered body on a mission to a dangerous jungle world. His assignment is to infiltrate an alien tribe on behalf of a corrupt mining corporation, which wants to drive them from their land. He comes to sympathise with the natives, and helps them fight back against his employers. James Cameron's sci-fi adventure, starring Sam Worthington, Zoe Saldana, Sigourney Weaver and Stephen Lang.

11.25 Film: Showgirls. (1995) A stripper sets out to become a star in a Las Vegas show, but reckons without the dubious backstage backstabbing. Adult drama, starring Elizabeth Berkley and Kyle MacLachlan.

1.50 The Good Wife. (R) **2.35** Desperate Housewives. (R) **3.15** Hollyoaks. (R) **5.25** SuperScrimpers' Challenge. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Gibraltar: Britain in the Sun. (R) **11.00** Benidorm ER. (R) **12.00** Beware! Cowboy Builders Abroad. (R) **1.00 Film:** Columbo: Ashes to Ashes. (1998) Detective drama, starring Peter Falk and Patrick McGoohan. **2.55 Film:** Private Benjamin. (1980) Comedy, starring Goldie Hawn. **5.00 Film:** Jesse Stone: Sea Change. (2007) Thriller, starring Tom Selleck.

6.40 Longmire. Walt searches for a missing Native American boy who has been fostered by a white family.

7.30 NCIS. The team investigates the death of a marine off the coast of Tanzania – a case complicated by the discovery that he had a link to Ziva. Starring Mark Harmon and Cote de Pablo. (R)

8.15 NCIS. The agents investigate the Halloween murder of a marine with a fondness for playing practical jokes. As the evidence accumulates, they begin to suspect he was killed by the exasperated victim of one of his pranks. Drama, starring Mark Harmon, David McCallum, Cote de Pablo, Michael Weatherly and Pauley Perrette. (R)

9.05 5 News Weekend.

9.15 Britain's Funniest Comedy Characters. Olivia Colman narrates this countdown of the nation's top 50 TV comic creations, both new and old. Those featured include neurotic hotel owner Basil Fawlty, disillusioned executive Reginald Perrin, seedy landlord Rigsby, the generation-hopping Blackadder, Ab Fab's Patsy and Eddy, David Brent from The Office, love's young dream duo Gavin & Stacey, crazy joke-shop owner Miranda, the even crazier Keith Lemon, Irish matriarch Mrs Brown and sex-mad virgin Jay from The Inbetweeners. Contributors to the show – some of whom are sure to feature on the list themselves – include Ruth Madoc (Hi-de-Hi!), Warren Mitchell (Alf Garnett), Neil Morrissey (Men Behaving Badly's Tony), Prunella Scales and Andrew Sachs (Fawlty Towers), plus Ann Widdecombe, Barry Cryer, Richard Curtis and Ronni Ancona. (R)

12.00 SuperCasino. **3.05** Classic Car Rescue. (R) **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.10** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.30** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Top Gear Vietnam Special **8.15 Film:** Toy Story 3 (2010) **9.55** Live at the Apollo **10.40** Russell Howard's Good News **11.10** Family Guy **1.00** Sweat the Small Stuff **1.30** Russell Howard's Good News **2.00** In the Flesh **4.00** Close

BBC Four

7.00 Britain's Natural World: The Unnatural History of London **8.00** Byzantium: A Tale of Three Cities **9.00** Cleopatra: The Film That Changed Hollywood **11.00** The Story of Top of the Pops 1979 **12.00** Top of the Pops: 1979 **12.35** John Denver: Country Boy **1.35** Byzantium: A Tale of Three Cities **2.35** Britain's Natural World: The Unnatural History of London **3.35** Close

ITV2

11.05 Tom Daley Goes Global **12.10** Britain's Got Talent **1.30** Britain's Got More Talent **2.30** Lawson: The Hot Desk **2.45 Film:** Dungeons and Dragons (2000) **5.00 Film:** Despicable Me (2010) **7.00** Totally You've Been Framed! **7.45** You've Been Framed! **8.15** Britain's Got More Talent **9.20** You've Been Framed! Family Special **10.00** Celebrity Juice **10.50** Crazy Beaches **11.15** Britain's Got Talent **12.35** Britain's Got More Talent **1.35** Fake Reaction **2.10** Dads **2.35** You've Been Framed! **3.00** Teleshopping

ITV3

11.40 Agatha Christie's Poirot **12.50** Jane Austen's Emma **3.00 Film:** The Railway Children (1970) **5.10** Foyle's War **7.10** Rosemary & Thyme **8.15** Doc Martin **9.15** Martin Clunes: Man to Manta **10.20** Cold Blood **11.55 Film:** Carry On Follow That Camel (1967) **1.50** Judge Judy **2.10** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4

11.00 Live Indian Premier League Cricket. Rajasthan Royals v Royal Challengers Bangalore and Kolkata Knight Riders v Kings XI Punjab. **8.00** British Superbike Championship Highlights **9.00 Film:** The Deer Hunter (1978) **12.45** River Monsters **1.50** Benidorm **2.45** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping **3.30** The Store **5.00** Teleshopping

E4

12.00 The Big Bang Theory **1.00** How I Met Your Mother **2.00 Film:** Hop (2011) **4.00** Made in Chelsea **5.00** Rude(ish) Tube **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** How I Met Your Mother **8.00** The Tomorrow People **9.00 Film:** The A-Team (2010) **11.25** The Big Bang Theory **12.25** Party House **1.30** 2 Broke Girls **2.00** The Cleveland Show **3.10** Youngers **4.00** Made in Chelsea **4.55** Ugly Betty

Film4

11.00 The Truth About Spring (1964) **1.00** Cocoon (1985) **3.20** The Longest Day (1962) **6.50** The Golden Compass (2007) **9.00** Planes, Trains and Automobiles (1987) **10.45** Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (2009) **12.30** Confessions (2010) **2.40** A Useful Life (2010) **4.00** Close

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Vera
(ITV, 8pm)
Not only did author Ann Cleeves create the books and characters on which the acclaimed Shetland is based, she's also the brains behind DCI Vera Stanhope, who's back for a new series. DS Ashworth's daughter witnesses the murder of pensioner Margaret Kraszewski on a busy Newcastle train at the height of rush hour. As a result, he's keener than ever to help Vera apprehend the killer, and the trail leads them to the B&B Margaret shared with a woman and her teenage children. Further investigation suggests she knew her killer, and that her death was tied to secrets from her past. Brenda Blethyn, David Leon, Jon Morrison, Clare Calbraith, Sonya Cassidy, Eva Birthistle, Alistair Petrie and Paul Copley star.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.35** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. With Mark Chapman and the Match of the Day team. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.15** Perfection. (R) **3.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.45** Monkey Planet. (R) **4.45** Points of View. **5.00** Songs of Praise. **5.45** Pointless Celebrities. (R)

6.35 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

7.00 Countryfile. Matt Baker and Ellie Harrison are in the Yorkshire Dales, helping small magazine The Dalesman celebrating its 75th anniversary by naming the top 75 icons of the county. Their journey takes in a visit to Bolton Abbey, a meeting with the ladies of Harrogate's Cappuccino Cycling Club – who are being photographed in their undies for charity – a brass band and a coastline search for the semi-precious stone, Whitby jet. Adam Henson meets the three finalists in this year's Outstanding Farmer of the Year award and Tom Heap investigates the claim that the current crisis over abandoned horses could be partially solved by eating the animals' meat. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the team visit Gregynog Hall, near Newtown in Powys, where items include secret plans drawn up by a British PoW and an artistic tribute to race-riot victims.

9.00 The Crimson Field. Joan's spirits are lifted by the arrival of 13 soldiers who have avoided death by sticking together – but one of them holds a secret. Kitty is confronted by a figure from her past.

10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

10.25 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the day's Premier League action, featuring Sunderland v Cardiff City, Liverpool v Chelsea and Crystal Palace v Manchester City.

11.40 The White Slums: Reggie Yates' Extreme South Africa. New series. Reggie Yates travels to South Africa 20 years after the first democratic elections to explore three different communities, beginning with a squatter camp.

12.40 Weatherview. **12.45** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **6.25 Film:** Cornered. (1945) **8.05** Countryfile. (R) **9.00** Gardeners' World. (R) **9.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **10.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. **12.15** Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge. (R) **1.00** Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge. (R) **1.45** Coast. **2.30** Live Snooker: The World Championship. The afternoon session on day nine at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield.

6.00 50 Golden Years of Sport on BBC Two. Sue Barker presents a look back at the history of sport on the channel through some of its most-watched events over the past 50 years. The film examines the birth of programmes including Match of the Day, Ski Sunday and Pot Black and reflects on memorable occasions such as the 1985 world snooker championship final between Dennis Taylor and Steve Davis, and the Ashes series in 1981. Featuring contributions by Gary Lineker, Ian Botham, Tanni Grey-Thompson, Steve Cram, Alan Hansen, Clare Balding, Des Lynam, Murray Walker and Alan Davies. (R)

7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. Coverage of the concluding session on day nine at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, where two second-round matches continue.

8.00 Natural World: France – The Wild Side. Paul McGann narrates a look at France's wildlife, revealing wolves, wild boar and bears living in the country's many mountains, valleys and forests. (R)

9.00 Film: The Artist. (2011) Premiere. A 1920s movie actor is smitten with a chorus girl he meets by chance, and helps arrange her big break in the film industry. Oscar-winning silent drama, starring Jean Dujardin, Berenice Bejo and John Goodman.

10.35 QI XL. Stephen Fry hosts an extended version of the quiz, featuring Professor Brian Cox, Rhys Darby, Jason Manford and Alan Davies answering questions on the topic of justice.

11.20 Snooker: The World Championship. Jason Mohammad presents highlights of the concluding session on day nine at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, where the second round continued with two more matches.

12.10 Snooker: World Championship Extra. **2.10** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **3.05** Holby City. (R) **4.05** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Dino Dan. **6.10** Dino Dan. (R) **6.25** Matt Hatter Chronicles. (R) **6.50** Canimals. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.05** Sooty. (R) **7.20** Digimon Fusion. (R) **7.45** Horrid Henry. (R) **8.00** Victorious. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **10.25 Film:** Columbo: Agenda for Murder. (1990) **12.20** ITV News; Weather. **12.30** Big Star's Little Star. (R) **1.30** The Unforgettable Noele Gordon. (R) **2.00** Britain's Got Talent. (R) **3.20** Let Me Entertain You. (R) **3.50 Film:** The Living Daylights. (1987) James Bond adventure, starring Timothy Dalton.

6.20 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.30 ITV News; Weather.

6.45 Catchphrase. Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show in which three contestants guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clues, before one of them plays to win £50,000.

7.30 Off Their Rockers. Seb needs a sponge bath, Rosie loses a rather unusual pet and Tony tries to prove there really is such a thing as a free lunch.

8.00 Vera. New series. The crime drama returns with an episode based on Ann Cleeves' recently published novel Harbour Street. Vera investigates the death of a pensioner found stabbed on a train at the height of rush hour. The case has a huge impact on Joe's home life when his daughter is named as a key witness, and he struggles to maintain a professional distance. The trail leads the team to a quiet Northumberland coastal town where clues appear to lead to one particular street – but why are the residents so reluctant to talk? Starring Brenda Blethyn, with David Leon, Sonya Cassidy, Jon Morrison and Eva Birthistle.

10.00 Perspectives: Gary Kemp – Kick Out the Jams. The Spandau Ballet star, a keen art collector, explores the work of Damien Hirst, Tracey Emin and the other Young British Artists, who shook up the modern art world 25 years ago.

11.00 ITV News; Weather.

11.20 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Britt Ekland. The former Bond girl talks about her career and private life, opening up about her turbulent marriage to Peter Sellers. (R)

12.15 The Store. **2.45** Motorsport UK. **3.35** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **4.25** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.20 Freesports on 4. **6.45** Freesports on 4. **7.10** British GT. **7.35** How I Met Your Mother. **8.00** How I Met Your Mother. **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Secret Eaters. (R) **1.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.30** The Simpsons. (R) **3.00** The Simpsons. (R) **3.30** Deal or No Deal. **4.30 Film:** Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules. (2011) Premiere. Children's comedy sequel, starring Zachary Gordon.

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Posh Pawn. An insight into the world of high-end pawnbroking, going behind the scenes at a Surrey-based firm dealing in luxurious and exclusive objects. In last year's one-off documentary, the asset experts at Prestige Pawnbrokers saw everything from a £25,000 designer handbag to a £1million helicopter, and in the first edition of this series, they're amazed by two diamond necklaces owned by very different clients. (R)

8.00 For the Love of Cars. Philip Glenister and Ant Anstead scour the nation for a Land Rover Series I, which went into production in 1948 with a run of just 39,000. Tracking down an example that has been sitting in a barn for more than 40 years, renowned car designer Ant tries to restore the unloved vehicle to its former glory. Meanwhile, Philip meets the Landie enthusiasts who gather in woodland to thrash their cars in the most basic form of motorsport, plus men who once depended on the Series I for survival in the desert.

9.00 Fargo. Sheriff's deputy Molly begins to suspect Lester is involved in the murders, but new boss Bill points her in a different direction. Meanwhile, Malvo investigates the blackmail plot against a man known as the Supermarket King. Black comedy-drama based on the Coen brothers' critically acclaimed film, starring Martin Freeman, Billy Bob Thornton, Allison Tolman and Bob Odenkirk.

10.10 Film: The Haunting in Connecticut. (2009) Premiere. Horror, with Virginia Madsen and Kyle Gallner.

12.10 Film: Sunshine. (2007) **2.00** The Good Wife. (R) **2.45** The Hotel. (R) **3.40** SuperScrimpers' Challenge. (R) **4.40** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. (R) **4.55** Deal or No Deal. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) **6.25** Bubble Guppies. (R) **6.35** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.50** Chloe's Closet. **7.00** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.35** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **7.40** City of Friends. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.05** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.15** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **8.25** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.30** LazyTown. (R) **10.00** Power Rangers Super Samurai. (R) **10.35** Power Rangers Megaforce. (R) **11.00** Access. **11.05** The Dog Rescuers. (R) **11.35** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) **12.35 Film:** The Land Before Time. (1988) Animated adventure, with the voice of Gabriel Damon. **2.05 Film:** Homeward Bound: The Incredible Journey. (1993) Animal adventure, with the voice of Michael J Fox. **3.45 Film:** Lilo & Stitch. (2002) Disney animated sci-fi comedy, with the voice of Daveigh Chase. **5.30 Film:** Freaky Friday. (2003) Disney comedy remake, starring Jamie Lee Curtis and Lindsay Lohan.

7.10 5 News.

7.15 Film: Rush Hour 2. (2001) The two mismatched detectives travel to Hong Kong to investigate a bombing at the US embassy, and take on Triad gangsters. Action comedy sequel, with Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker. Edited for violence and language.

9.00 Film: The Other Guys. (2010) Premiere. Two desk-bound incompetent cops live in the shadow of their more daring colleagues. However, when the heroes of the station are killed in a bizarre accident, the bumbling duo get the chance to prove their worth as they stumble across a tycoon's illegal activities. Action comedy, starring Will Ferrell, Mark Wahlberg, Steve Coogan and Eva Mendes. Includes 5 News Update at 10pm.

11.10 Film: Bad Boys. (1995) Two detectives are forced to swap identities as they hunt for a heroin consignment stolen by a drug kingpin. Michael Bay's action thriller, starring Will Smith and Martin Lawrence. Edited for language.

1.20 SuperCasino. **3.05** Britain's Crime Capitals. (R) **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.10** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.30** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Don't Tell the Bride **8.00** Great Movie Mistakes IV: May the Fourth Be with You **8.30 Film:** WALL-E (2008) **10.00** Family Guy **10.45** American Dad! **11.30** Ja'mie: Private School Girl **12.20** The Call Centre **1.20** Can Criminals Say Sorry? **2.20** Sweat the Small Stuff **2.50** In the Flesh **3.50** Great TV Mistakes **4.00** Close

BBC Four
7.00 Don Giovanni from the Royal Opera House **10.00** Sting: When the Last Ship Sails **11.20** The Joy of Easy Listening **12.50** The Wonder of Bees with Martha Kearney **1.20** Neil Diamond: Solitary Man **2.20** Neil Diamond: Radio 2 Electric Prom **3.25** Sounds of the 70s 2 Reggae – Stir It Up **3.55** Close

ITV2
12.00 Film: The Lost World: Jurassic Park (1997) **2.35 Film:** Mr Magorium's Wonder Emporium (2007) **4.30** Britain's Got Talent **5.45** Britain's Got More Talent **6.45** You've Been Framed! **7.20 Film:** Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace (1999) **10.00** Viral Tap **10.50 Film:** Forgetting Sarah Marshall (2008) **1.00** Viral Tap **1.40** The Vampire Diaries **2.30** You've Been Framed! **2.50** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3
11.25 Jane Austen's Emma **1.30** Agatha Christie's Marple **3.40** Rosemary & Thyme **4.45** Agatha Christie's Poirot **5.55** Inspector Morse **8.00** The Zoo **9.00** Birds of a Feather **9.30** Vicious **10.00 Film:** Fierce Creatures (1997) **11.55** Cracker **1.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **2.45** Judge Judy **3.10** ITV3 Nightscreen **3.40** Emmerdale

ITV4
11.00 Live Indian Premier League Cricket. Delhi Daredevils v Mumbai Indians and Sunrisers Hyderabad v Chennai Super Kings. **8.00** Storage Wars **9.00 Film:** Klitschko (2011) **11.25 Film:** Tremors (1989) **1.25** Warren United **1.55** Minder **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping **3.30** The Store **5.00** Teleshopping

E4
12.35 Made in Chelsea **1.35** Revenge **2.35** Rude(ish) Tube **3.00** How I Met Your Mother **4.00** The Big Bang Theory **5.00** The Tomorrow People **6.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **6.30** The Big Bang Theory **8.00 Film:** Sister Act (1992) **10.05** Rude Tube: Utter Pranks **11.05** How I Met Your Mother **12.05** Rules of Engagement **1.00** Rude Tube: Utter Pranks **2.00** The Ricky Gervais Show **3.25** Hollyoaks

Film4
11.00 The Brady Bunch Movie (1995) **1.00** Angus, Thongs and Perfect Snogging (2008) **3.00** The Spiderwick Chronicles (2008) **4.50** Chariots of Fire (1981) **7.15** Fast Girls (2012) **9.00** The Adjustment Bureau (2011) **11.05** The Informers (2008) **1.00** If (1968) **3.15** Close

star extra TRAVEL

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Film Choices

MONDAY
Smokin' Aces, ITV, 10.35pm
A Las Vegas showman agrees to become an FBI informant and dish the dirt on a big-time mobster. However, the gangster responds by putting a price on his head, and soon a motley crew of assassins from across the country are vying to claim the bounty – while the showman only has two agents for protection. Comedy crime drama, starring Jeremy Piven, Ben Affleck, Zach Cumer, Andy Garcia and Ray Liotta. (2007)

TUESDAY
Goodnight for Justice: Queen of Hearts, Channel 5, 3.15pm
Judge John Goodnight intercedes in a stagecoach robbery and rescues the only surviving passenger. He escorts her to safety by riverboat, gradually learning she is a con-woman who was on her way to prison. His staunch morals are tested as he is tempted to help her escape justice. Western sequel, starring Luke Perry, Katharine Isabelle and Ricky Schroder. (2013)

WEDNESDAY
A Bronx Tale, BBC1, 11.45pm
An honest, hard-working bus driver watches helplessly as his teenage son falls under the spell of a smooth-talking, sharp-suited gangster and is gradually drawn deeper into the criminal underworld. Crime drama, directed by and starring Robert De Niro. (1993)

Withnail & I, Friday, Channel 4, 12.30am

THURSDAY
Stealing Paradise, Channel 5, 3.15pm
An aeronautical engineer is outraged when a colleague steals her ideas for himself and patents them. When he is later found dead, she becomes the prime suspect in the police investigation, and must find a way to clear her name. Thriller, starring Rachael Leigh Cook. (2011)

FRIDAY
My Family's Secret, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A man attempts suicide, leaving a cryptic note claiming he may have caused his sister's death. His wife goes back to his home town in search of answers and asks his brother for help. She does not realise her brother-in-law has a split personality, and digging up the past brings out his more dangerous aspects. Thriller, starring Nicholle Tom, Philip Riccio and Dylan Neal. (2010)

Withnail & I, Channel 4, 12.30am
Two hard-drinking unemployed actors sharing a grotty flat in late 1960s London think they can escape their miserable existence by decamping to a cottage in the Lake District. But finding no respite from their problems, the less self-destructive of the pair comes to realise he has to leave his friend behind. Cult black comedy, starring Richard E Grant and Paul McGann. (1987)

Pick of the Week

Vera tries to keep her new case on track

Ann Cleeves must be feeling pretty pleased with the way her career is going at the moment.

The 60-year-old author's novels continue to sell well and the TV series Shetland, which is based on her books about DI Jimmy Perez, has just ended an acclaimed run on BBC1.

There's hardly been time to draw breath between that and the start of Vera's fourth series.

DCI Vera Stanhope, played so convincingly by Brenda Blethyn, was also created by Cleeves, and the first three sets of cases have proved popular with ITV viewers – and with the actress who plays her.

Blethyn has a variety of acclaimed roles to her name, including an Oscar nomination for playing an overbearing mother in Little Voice, but Vera is her longest acting commitment to date.

"I'll continue to play Vera for as long as the audience wants to see her, as I absolutely love the character," says the actress. "I was first attracted to the role because the drama focuses on the crime rather than her personal life, and Vera's not your usual run-of-the-mill detective. She doesn't come with any baggage; she's not hampered by romance. If you passed her in the street you wouldn't dream she was a detective.

"The success of Vera is down to a team effort. It sounds a cliché to say it, but every single person in the cast and crew plays a vital role in the show's success. The international success of the previous three series is very gratifying and of course it's great to receive such positive feedback from fans."

In January, Cleeves' latest book featuring DCI Stanhope, Harbour Street, was published. It also forms the basis of the first case to be tackled by the character in this fourth run.

DS Ashworth's daughter witnesses the murder of pensioner Margaret Kraszewski on a busy Newcastle train at the height of rush hour.

As a result, he's keener than ever to help Vera apprehend the killer, particularly as he feels partly to blame for his daughter being on the train in the first place.

"Joe's daughter Jessie is under a lot of pressure to recall the events that took place, which is obviously very distressing for one so young, and which creates tension between Joe and Celine. Had Joe followed his wife's advice and paid for a taxi home, their daughter would have been spared the anguish."

The investigation eventually leads Vera and Joe to the B&B Margaret shared with a woman and her teenage children. Further investigation suggests she knew her killer, and that her death was tied to secrets from her past.

Once this case is wrapped up, there are three more for the duo to get their teeth into – what can we expect from those?

"Viewers will meet Marcus Summer (Kingsley Ben-Adir), our new pathologist, who is joining the team following Billy's departure," explains Blethyn. "He's a pretty smart cookie and quickly gets the measure of Vera!

"And as always we have some stunning landscapes featured across the four films."

David Leon and Brenda Blethyn star in Vera, Sunday, ITV, 8pm

Best of the Rest

MONDAY
Britain's Most Extreme Weather
Channel 4, 8pm
It's been a mild winter, but Britain has been battered by terrible storms and gale force winds, not to mention a tidal surge. Flooding has wrecked the homes of thousands living across the country – and if extreme weather continues through the summer, we may end up with a drought. But why have we been facing such unusual conditions? In this four-part series, weatherman Alex Beresford attempts to find out. He also trawls through the archives to find out if we're now facing the worst weather our shores have ever faced – and if things are getting worse. The first programme focuses on floods, and it seems that compared to the aftermath of the Great Storm of 1703, in 2014 we've got away with things lightly.

Prey
ITV, 9pm
We have high hopes for this new, three-part thriller, which stars John Simm. In some respects it sounds a little bit like The Fugitive – Simm plays a well-liked bloke who is framed for a crime he didn't commit, escapes from the authorities and sets out to clear his name. Simm plays DC Marcus Farrow, a likeable copper with two sons who is found at the scene of a brutal crime. When all the evidence points at him being the culprit, he's arrested and charged, but makes a bid for freedom. Suddenly he's on the run on the streets he used to police, trying to evade recapture by his colleague, DS Susan Reinhardt, while also attempting to clear his name.

TUESDAY
Happy Valley
BBC1, 9pm
Writer Sally Wainwright and actress Sarah Lancashire must have formed a solid friendship after the incredibly successful Last Tango in Halifax – they've reteamed for this crime thriller, which incidentally is filmed not too far away from that romantic drama, in Calderdale, West Yorkshire. But while the backdrop of the rolling hills and sleepy villages may seem picturesque, there's enough crime going down to keep the local bobbys busy. Catherine Cawood (Lancashire) is the sergeant on duty when flustered accountant Kevin Weatherill (Steve Pemberton) stumbles into the station to report a crime – a crime that was his own doing.

WEDNESDAY
Secret Eaters
Channel 4, 8pm
Having been together for four years, Allan and Emma are in that 'comfortable' stage – so much so that they have no idea why they seem to be putting on so much weight. But the surveillance cameras reveal something we can all be guilty of – super-sized portions at meal times. Not to worry – Anna Richardson is on hand with some no-nonsense advice and a plan of action to ensure the couple change their lifestyles and begin to notice the changes by the belt notch. Meanwhile, psychologist Dr Christy Ferguson sets up an experiment in a Manchester office to see if pre-ordering your lunch means you're more likely to make healthier choices than choosing on impulse.

Prey, Monday, ITV, 9pm

Derek
Channel 4, 10pm
Brace yourselves for Kev as you've never seen him before – or at least, doing something you never expected. Since we first met him in the first series, he's been a layabout who's preferred to spend his days downing cans of lager rather than actually doing anything constructive. But Kev seems set to change his ways when he discovers there are jobs available at Broadhill – seeing as he spends most of his time hanging out at the place, he may as well get paid for it, right? But cleaning up his act won't be easy... Meanwhile, Hannah worries about Vicky's new relationship and Derek is stirred up by a new acquaintance.

THURSDAY
Posh Pawn
Channel 4, 8pm
Millions of us telly addicts love spotting a bargain without leaving the comfort of our sofas, whether it's the whimsical charm of homegrown hit Bargain Hunt, or the high-octane, trailer trash world of Stateside smash Storage Hunters. However, there's been a new edition to the genre in recent weeks thanks to Posh Pawn, the documentary series uncovering the hidden world of high-end pawnbroking. This week we meet reformed 1980s cat burglar Sid. He hopes to raise cash with assistance from his family and their jewellery. Meanwhile, Prestige Pawnbrokers boss James gets a shock while test driving a client's superbike at Brands Hatch, and new employee Kristen has to value two huge tanzanite stones.

FRIDAY
The Trip to Italy
BBC2, 10pm
Steve and Rob visit Pompeii and then have lunch at Relais Blu on the Sorrento coast, overlooking the isle of Capri. Continuing their journey by car they head to the next hotel, where Rob receives a call from his agent telling him he has got the part in the movie he auditioned for.

The Beatles: The Night That Changed America – A Grammy Salute
ITV, 10.35pm
Entertainment special commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Fab Four's ground-breaking first appearance on The Ed Sullivan Show and celebrating their legacy. Songs performed on that momentous evening in 1964, as well as Beatles hits through the years, are covered here by some of the biggest names in music, including Maroon 5, Katy Perry, Ed Sheeran, Stevie Wonder, Alicia Keys and John Legend, and Eurythmics – reuniting for one night only. Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr team up for Hey Jude and With a Little Help from My Friends.

Brain Gym No.270

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.

15	18	18	10	■	4	12	20	20	15	25	14	17
25	■	12	■	■	12	■	■	12	■	8	■	2
26	■	8	18	4	20	18	22	17	■	22	■	18
18	19	18	■	■	■	3	■	■	15	25	4	4
8	■	10	■	13	25	22	10	■	■	14	■	23
■	11	25	24	18	■	2	■	26	12	18	4	4
■	■	■	■	18	■	18	■	8	■	■	■	■
20	6	4	18	8	■	5	■	18	3	25	11	■
15 L	■	15	■	■	13	12	8	19	■	11	■	21
25 A	20	18	3	■	■	18	■	■	■	6	7	18
22	■	25	■	25	23	8	9	25	16	18	■	17
23	■	24	■	23	■	■	6	■	■	1	■	23
7	25	19	1	8	18	25	10	■	8	25	23	7

1	14
2	15 L
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25 A
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1 J	2 A	3 U	4 X	5 Q	6 B	7 Z	8 S	9 P	10 C	11 T	12 H	13 R
14 O	15 E	16 M	17 K	18 L	19 Y	20 G	21 V	22 I	23 W	24 D	25 N	26 F

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. It may get broken - put it down! (6)
4. Don't contract for a feast (6)
9. He should know how to get people to make outstanding contributions (4-9)
10. Contacts by telephone and makes men join the army (5,2)
11. In the advertisement anger is ventilated (5)
12 & 6 Dn. What the stage electrician provides? (5,13)
14. About to bet on a kind of race (5)
18. Ice may accompany rich food (5)
19. To inflame the feelings in what is reasonable, we hear (7)
21. The state of the team who receive no vocal encouragement? (13)
22. Give evidence that a teetotaller is attached to a different set (6)
23. Are those off this track defeated? (6)

Down

1. Don't increase the weight - cut the price (6)
2. Comrade-in-arms (2-11)
3. Competitions for those with common characteristics? (5)
5. Before the deceased archbishop (7)
6. See 12 Across
7. Being out of order, I deliberately adopt a mocking attitude (6)
8. Makes uncertain progress causing mistakes (5)
13. Funny sounding part associated with a member (7)
15. Sensitive plant raised in Jamaica carefully! (6)
16. Bad habits they won't let go (5)
17. Logically think out the cause (6)
20. Social distinction is rejected, we hear (5)

1		2		3		■	4	5		6		7
	■		■		■	8	■		■		■	
9												
	■		■		■		■		■		■	
10							■	11				
	■		■	■	■		■		■		■	
■	12			13		■	14					■
15	■		■		■	16	■	■	■		■	17
18					■	19		20				
	■		■		■		■		■		■	
21												
	■		■		■		■		■		■	
22					■		23					

Quick Clues:

Across

1. Retiring (6)
4. Firm (6)
9. Mixed (13)
10. Loiters (7)
11. Anaesthetic (5)
12. Cleave (5)
14. Employers (5)
18. Denude (5)
19. Dispossess (7)
21. Amusement (13)
22. Abandon (6)
23. Pure (6)

Down

1. Mutter (6)
2. Crumbles (13)
3. Riddle (5)
5. Offers (7)
6. Comradeship (13)
7. Make certain (6)
8. Near (5)
13. Sovereign (7)
15. Climb (6)
16. Perfect (5)
17. Pay bill (6)
20. Nip (5)

Sudoku

					2	1		7
	2		4	7				
9					5		4	3
6			1			8		
		9			6	7		
		5		8	3			6
1	3		9					8
		8		2	1		6	
5		4	8					2

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

9	7	1	2	4	8	3	6	5
8	2	5	7	6	3	1	4	9
4	6	3	5	1	9	8	7	2
6	9	4	3	2	7	5	1	8
7	3	2	8	5	1	6	9	4
1	5	8	4	9	6	7	2	3
5	4	6	1	8	2	9	3	7
3	8	9	6	7	4	2	5	1
2	1	7	9	3	5	4	8	6

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Stout-hearted; 7 Groom; 8 Credo; 9 Oar; 10 Fishpaste; 11 Radish; 12 Ceding; 15 President; 17 Amp; 18 Extra; 19 Issue; 21 Green fingers. Down: 1 Stenographer; 2 Too; 3 Enmesh; 4 Recipient; 5 Evens; 6 Foreign parts; 7 Gored; 10 Fascinate; 13 Image; 14 Relief; 16 Enter; 20 Sun. QUICK - Across: 1 Pettifoggery; 7 Greet; 8 Tramp; 9 Ere; 10 Protector; 11 Unsure; 12 Finish; 15 Suffering; 17 Ban; 18 Twine; 19 Curve; 21 Unseasonable. Down: 1 Prerequisite; 2 Ire; 3 Option; 4 Gathering; 5 React; 6 Apprehensive; 7 Guess; 10 Persevere; 13 Imbue; 14 Discus; 16 Feign; 20 Run.

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Choose your show, price band* and how you want to travel

Rail inclusive breaks – Two or three days

Departures most weekends

Saturday Night Theatre from £149.95
Catch the Theatre Express and enjoy a super two-day weekend break in the capital. There's a choice of London hotels and your ticket is for a Saturday evening performance.

Rail travel is standard class with the option to upgrade. Departs Saturday morning/early afternoon from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton, returning on the Sunday afternoon/early evening to give plenty of free time for shopping and sightseeing.

Theatre Showstopper from £199.95
This popular theatre package to the West End departs from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton on the Friday morning returning on the Sunday afternoon/early evening.

Standard class travel is included with the option to upgrade. Two nights stay at a four-star London hotel of your choice (hotel supplements may apply) and a top priced ticket for a Friday evening performance.

Coach inclusive breaks – Two days

Selected weekend departures

Saturday Night from £139.95
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Take in a top West End show and have some free time in London for shopping and sightseeing.

For the Dine and Dance option see the matinee performance before heading back to the hotel for dinner and a disco (conditions apply). Or the Saturday Night option includes a ticket for the show to see an evening performance.

Both breaks include a theatre ticket, overnight stay in a four-star outer London hotel, with full English breakfast (plus dinner for Dine and Dance options).

Pick ups points offered are Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

**The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details.*
Single room supplements apply. for all breaks

Organised by Omega Events Ltd (ABTA Y590X)

For a theatre brochure please call the promotions team on (01902) 319999 (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm), or go expressandstar.com/starextratravel

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STAR EXTRA TRAVEL, the travel department of the Express & Star, offers a wide range of short breaks and holidays. For your security, our tour operators are members of ABTA – the Travel Association and hold an ATOL (Air Travel Organisers Licence) for holidays by air. Prices are per person (unless otherwise stated). Please note Star Extra Travel is unable to take bookings over the telephone. Please read brochures/web pages for full description plus terms and conditions. Dates subject to availability. Coach pick up points offered: Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton (with the exception of holidays by air, Eurostar and certain cruises).

Monet's Garden and Paris

Pick of the week

Four days departing June 27, August 8 and September 19

PRICE FROM £179.50

Visits to the Normandy village of Giverny and former home of the Impressionist Claude Monet, are the highlights of this French break.

The small village of Giverny was home and inspiration for over 40 years to Claude Monet, perhaps the most famous of the French Impressionists.

Whilst there, maybe visit one of the many galleries, studios or shops or take a walk to the pretty little church of Giverny, built mostly in the 15th and 16th centuries. Its the church that Monet attended and where he and his family are buried.

Monet's house itself has been restored to its original beauty with an attractive pink façade and now contains reproductions of his work. In the gardens, which have been re-planted to his design, there is his studio and lily pond, the subject of many of his paintings.

A transfer into Paris for a full day at leisure or the chance to join an optional excursion to Fontainebleau and Barbizon are also part of the itinerary.

Other optional excursions offered include an evening in the fascinating artist's quarter of Montmartre, and a Latin Quarter with evening river cruise on the Seine giving a full commentary on all the major sights.

INFO

- Return coach travel
- Three nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Visit to Giverny including admission to Monet's house and gardens
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability – supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

The Battlefields of World War One

Four days departing September 26

PRICE FROM £209

- Return coach travel and Channel crossings
- Three nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Full programme sightseeing the Somme and Ypres Salient
- Entrance to the Historial de la Grande Guerre museum
- Entrance to the In Flanders Field museum
- Visit to the Menin Gate
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

Classical Spain

Seven days various departure dates

PRICE FROM £569

- Return flights
- Six nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Guided tours of Seville and the Alhambra Palace in Granada
- Visits to Cordoba and Ronda
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Certain entrance fees payable locally
Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)

The Amalfi Coast

Eight days various departure dates

PRICE FROM £689

- Return flights
- Seven nights half-board accommodation
- Full-day tour to Sorrento and along the Amalfi Coast
- Full day visit to Paestum and Salerno
- Local wine and soft drinks with dinner, daily tea and biscuits, free use of tennis courts and sunbeds
- Two optional excursions offered
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Holidays (ABTA V7812, ATOL 2325)

Moselle Valley by Eurostar

Six days various departure dates

PRICE FROM £529

- Return standard class Eurostar
- Five nights half-board accommodation
- Visits to Aachen, Koblenz, Cochem, Trier and Bernkastel
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744)

Wimbledon

Two days departing July 5 and 6

PRICE FROM £139

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Full day at Wimbledon with a reserved seat on No.1 Court to see the finals of the Junior and Veteran events
- Visit to Windsor
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

Chatsworth House and the Peak District

Two days departing July 20

PRICE FROM £89.95

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Entrance to Chatsworth House and gardens
- Tour of the Peak District
- Evening entertainment
- Services of a tour driver
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Emmerdale and the Best of Yorkshire

Three days departing June 27, September 19

PRICE FROM £139

- Return coach travel
- Two nights half-board accommodation
- Tours of Emmerdale country, Last of the Summer Wine country and the Yorkshire Dales
- Visit to York
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availabiity - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

Buckingham Palace, Houses of Parliament and the London Eye

Four days departing Aug 15 and Sept 19

PRICE FROM £279

- Return coach travel
- Three nights half-board accommodation at a three-star outer London hotel
- Entrance to Buckingham Palace
- Entrance and guided tour of the Houses of Parliament
- Visits to Royal Windsor and Henley on Thames
- Flight on the London Eye
- Free time in London
- Services of a tour driver
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Longleat Safari and Adventure Park

Two days departing June 13 and October 11

PRICE FROM £119*

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Day ticket to Longleat Safari and Adventure Park
- Visit to Bath
- Services of a tour driver
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

*Child price from £109 - conditions apply

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Narrowboats and Steam

Three days departing September 5

PRICE FROM £199.95

- Return coach travel
- Two nights half-board accommodation
- Ride on the Lakeside and Haverthwaite Railway
- Cruise on Lake Windermere
- Narrowboat cruise on the Leeds Liverpool canal
- Time in Skipton and Bowness
- Services of a coach driver/tour representative
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Omega Short Breaks (ABTA Y5914)

The Edinburgh Military Tattoo, Rail and Steam

Four days departing August 1

PRICE FROM £299

- Return coach travel
- Three nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Two three-course evening meals
- Ticket for the Edinburgh Military Tattoo
- Return journey on the Bo'ness and Kinneil Railway
- Circular Cruise on the SS Sir Walter Scott
- Visits to Edinburgh, Aberfoyle and Gretna Green
- Services of a tour driver
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Conservatory a bonus at three-bed detached

A THREE-BEDROOMED detached property with a conservatory and en-suite in Princethorpe Road, Willenhall is well presented.

It is for sale through Reeds Rains at £194,995. Accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hall with stairs off, lounge with a feature fireplace with an electric fire, dining room.

There is also a kitchen with a gas hob and electric oven, and a conservatory.

To the first floor, there is a master bedroom with en-suite shower room and two more bedrooms.

Outside is a driveway leading to the garage, a mainly lawned front garden and an enclosed rear garden with lawn and patio area.

For further information contact Reeds Rains on 01902 428888 or visit www.reedsrains.co.uk

Imposing home of distinction for £475k

A N attractive and imposing traditional detached property of distinction, 34 Coppice Road, Finchfield, Wolverhampton has been extensively extended and improved. It is for sale for £475,000.

There is an impressive principal living room with feature fireplace, conservatory, large study/sitting room, well-equipped breakfast kitchen, utility room, downstairs wc, master bedroom with luxury en suite, double guest room with luxury en-suite, three further bedrooms and a spacious luxury bathroom.

Situated within a favoured residential area the property stands some way back from this sought after tree-lined road on a generous corner plot. Contact Steventon Estates on 01902 753131.

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Guide: £24,000-£29,000

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Doing**More...**

Holyhead Road, Codsall

£475,000

A period cottage that has undergone improvements by the current owners, while retaining many period features. The property sits in its own grounds with entry by electric gates to gravelled drive. Open day April 26th. Phone 01902744252 for details.

Mercia Drive, Perton

£190,000

Modern detached property convenient for Perton Centre. Accommodation comprises lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility, downstairs cloaks, three bedrooms and family bathroom. Open day April 26th. Phone 01902744252 for details.

Clive Road, Pattingham

£325,000

Three bedroom detached bungalow close to village amenities. Comprises lounge/dining room kitchen, utility room, parking and garage.

Malory Drive, Telford

£180,000

A three bedroom linked detached bungalow which briefly comprises lounge, breakfast kitchen, conservatory, front and rear gardens.

Common Road, Wombourne

£215,000

Set in a mature plot, the accommodation comprises lounge, kitchen, conservatory and two bedrooms. There is also a converted attic. There are gardens front and rear and off road parking. Open day April 26th. Phone 01902744252 for details.

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Public Notice

£240,000

12 LOWLANDS AVENUE, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV6 9PA. We are acting in the sale of the above property and have received an offer of £235,000. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to DIXONS ESTATE AGENTS, 79 DARLINGTON STREET, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV1 4JD 01902 310000 before an exchange of contracts takes place. EPC Rating C.

Woodland Road, Wolverhampton

£240,000

A four bedroom extended property which comprises lounge, two reception rooms, extended fitted kitchen/diner and upstairs bathroom.

Birchwood Road, Wolverhampton

£180,000

This detached property comprises lounge, two reception rooms, kitchen, three bedrooms and a bathroom with seperate WC.

Cannock Road, Westcroft

£175,000

A three bedroom semi detached property located in Westcroft area of Wolverhampton, close to M54, all routes to City Centre.

Holly Grove, Wolverhampton

£165,000

An extended three bedroom semi detached property, comprises lounge/living room, conservatory, extended fitted kitchen and off road parking.

Hollybush Lane, Wolverhampton

Offers Over£150,000

Three bedroom extended semi detached property comprises lounge, kitchen breakfast room, garage with off road parking and a rear garden.

Green Drive, Wolverhampton

Offers Over£140,000

An extended semi detached comprises extended lounge, modern fitted open plan kitchen/dining room and three bedrooms. Backs onto golf course.

Hollybush Lane, Wolverhampton

Offers Over£140,000

An extended traditional three bedroom property with ample off road parking and good size landscaped rear garden.

Springhill Grove, Wolverhampton

£135,000

In need of some modernisation is this three bedroom extended semi detached property within a cul-de-sac location in Penn.

Warstones Road, Penn

£125,000

A four bedroom property in Warstones. Comprising two reception rooms, kitchen and a bathroom.

Langlet Gardens, Wolverhampton

£125,000

Three bedrooms semi detached with off road parking and a paved rear garden. Internally the property comprises two reception rooms and kitchen.

Maple Road, Wolverhampton

£100,000

A two bedroom ground floor flat comprises fitted kitchen, lounge, private rear garden and a garage.

Poplar Road, Wolverhampton

£90,000

A ground floor flat comprises lounge, two double bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen and communal gardens.

Renton Grove, Wolverhampton

Offers Over£60,000

Ground floor one bedroom apartment, located in a popular area. Comprises kitchen, bathroom, bedroom communal parking and gardens.

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WOMBOURNE

SYTCH LANE • Imposing 4/5 Bed Detached residence together with self-contained 1 Bedroom Annexe delightfully positioned in Wombourne's most prestigious neighbourhood, convenient for local facilities and schools • Generous layout of interest to families with dependent relative or those requiring separate teenager's 'Pad' • Substantially enlarged including comprehensive scheme of improvement and refitting to excellent standard • Fitted Cloaks • 3 Receptions • Refitted Kitchen • Master Bedroom with En-Suite • 3 further generous Bedrooms • House Bathroom with whirlpool bath and shower • Annexe features Hall, Living Room, refitted Dining Kitchen • Shower Room • First floor Bedroom with balcony and Toilet • 30ft Long tandem Garage & Laundry • Gas CH and mostly uPVC double glazed • EPC: E

OFFERS AROUND £645,000

LOWER PENN

ORTON LANE • Extremely spacious modern style Detached set in delightful grounds of about 0.75 acres on outskirts of Wombourne surrounded by beautiful South Staffs countryside • Convenient for local amenities and handy for city centre • Presently a 3 Bed layout but potential to create 4 or more if required • Roomy interior perhaps in need of some cosmetic updating but with considerable scope • Hall • Elegant Lounge • Study • Dining Room • Breakfast Kitchen and Laundry • Sitting Room • Landing (potential to create 4th bed) • Master Bedroom with wardrobes & refitted En-Suite • 2 further Bedrooms (one with access to sizeable attic room) • House Bathroom • Double Garage • Private gardens • EPC: E

OFFERS AROUND £625,000

WIGHTWICK

• Exceptional detached dormer bungalow of immense appeal. Occupying superb corner plot in select cul-de-sac off Perton Road, one of the city's most prestigious settings • Quality specification provides very comfortable accommodation of impressively proportioned layout and high standard of presentation • Reception Hall with fitted Cloakroom • Large Lounge with marble fireplace • 21ft Dining Room • Additional Sitting Room • Spacious Breakfast Kitchen with extensive fittings / appliances and Aga • Butlers pantry, Utility / Laundry and second fitted Cloakroom • Two ground floor Bedrooms, each with en-suite Bath / Shower Room • Two first floor Bedrooms, one with Toilet Room en-suite • Principal Bathroom • Gas-fired central heating • Double glazed windows • Four-car Garage plus generous forecourt parking facilities • Beautifully landscaped gardens with principal aspects to south and west and including conservatory • Overall plot area approximately one quarter of an acre. (EPC:E)

OFFERS AROUND £535,000

PATTINGHAM

• Outstanding detached bungalow impressively positioned on prominent corner plot in the heart of the village with local amenities within short walk • Very spacious accommodation, presented in fine order with superbly appointed specification • Large Lounge • 19ft Dining Room • 35ft Conservatory • Lavishly equipped Breakfast Kitchen • Fitted Cloakroom • Master Bedroom with extensive fitted furniture, coordinating Dressing Room and fully fitted Bathroom en-suite • Three further Bedrooms • Fully tiled principal Bathroom with five-piece suite • Gas-fired central heating • Double glazed windows • Double-width Garage plus forecourt parking for several vehicles • Lovely large landscaped gardens, private southerly aspect to rear (EPC:D)

OFFERS AROUND £437,500

FINCHFIELD

• Exceptionally stylish detached residence in particularly pleasant cul-de-sac setting with lovely wooded outlook and easy access to excellent local amenities • Imaginative split level design and superb contemporary specification combine to create a comfortable family home of very high standard • Fitted Cloakroom • Dining Room • Study • Huge Lounge • 20ft Living Room • Lavishly appointed Breakfast Kitchen • Master Bedroom with fitted wardrobes and en-suite Shower Room • Three further well proportioned Bedrooms • Principal Bathroom plus additional fully fitted independent Shower Room • Gas-fired central heating • Double glazed windows • Garage / Utility • Extensive forecourt parking facilities • Attractively landscaped gardens including feature tiered patios. (EPC:D)

OFFERS AROUND £399,950

TETTENHALL

• Impressive detached bungalow enjoying excellent setting in select small cul-de-sac within the prestigious Stockwell End neighbourhood • Generously proportioned accommodation appointed to very comfortable standard with scope for a little updating to suit personal requirements • Porch and Hall • Fitted Cloakroom • Large Lounge (approx 19' x 16') with distinctive feature fireplace • Separate Dining Room • Well fitted Kitchen with adjacent Laundry • Three good Bedrooms, all with fitted wardrobes • Shower Room • Gas-fired central heating • Double glazed windows • Double-width Garage plus additional Carport and secure courtyard parking area • Lawned gardens. (EPC:D)

OFFERS AROUND £315,000

CASTLECROFT

36 Windmill Lane Castlecroft WV3 8HG OPEN VIEWING, SATURDAY 26TH APRIL, CALL ANYTIME BETWEEN 11.00am - 1.00PM, NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY • • Detached dormer bungalow residence of impressive double-fronted design, nicely situated in popular locality within the highly favoured western outskirts of the city • Excellent accommodation with lovely blend of traditional character and contemporary styling, very attractively presented throughout • Sitting Room with marble fireplace • Dining Room open plan to superbly equipped Kitchen • Side Porch with Laundry Lobby • Double Bedroom and fully fitted Shower Room on the ground floor • Two further Bedrooms and Bathroom on the first floor • Gas-fired central heating • Double glazed windows • Large detached four-car Garage plus extensive additional parking facilities • Nicely landscaped garden with south westerly aspect to rear. (EPC:D)

OFFERS AROUND £279,950 NEW PRICE

WOMBOURNE

STRATHMORE CRESCENT • Immaculately presented 3 Bed modern style Detached Bungalow, situated in pleasant corner position just off exclusive Orton Lane, convenient for excellent village facilities • Stylishly appointed interior with Gas CH and uPVC double glazing • Hall • Lounge & adjoining Dining Area • Well fitted Kitchen • Side Lobby with Fitted Cloaks and Utility • Sitting Room/Bed 3 with uPVC double glazed Conservatory off • 2 further Bedrooms, both with wardrobes • Luxuriously refitted Bathroom with both bath and shower • Garage and wide block-paved driveway with additional parking to side • Easily manageable rear garden; Viewing highly recommended • EPC: D

OFFERS AROUND £259,950

WOMBOURNE

12 BRINDLEY CLOSE WV5 8HJ
• • OPEN VIEWING: SAT 26th APRIL 11AM - 1PM - NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY • •
• Considerably enlarged, exquisitely presented and expensively appointed modern 4 Bed, 2 Bath Detached set in fringe of development position just off Poolhouse Road handy for village facilities including supermarket shopping & schools • Refitted Guest's Cloaks off Hall • Lounge • Dining Room • uPVC double glazed Conservatory • Spacious well-fitted Breakfast Kitchen • Study with Toilet off • Utility • Attic Playroom/Home Office (ladder access) • Bedroom 1 with wardrobes and En-Suite • 3 further Bedrooms • Sumptuous House Bathroom with a period style suite • Gas CH and uPVC double glazing • Garage & block-paved driveway • Sizeable rear garden • EPC: F

OFFERS AROUND £259,950

NEWBRIDGE

• Excellent detached bungalow in very pleasant small cul-de-sac enjoying mature setting off Tettenhall Road with good local amenities within comfortable walking distance • Surprisingly spacious accommodation of impressively proportioned layout and comfortable standard of appointment • Porch and Hall • 31ft Living Room with defined sitting and dining areas • Particularly well equipped Breakfast Kitchen including range of integrated appliances • Master Bedroom with en-suite Shower Room • Two further double Bedrooms • Bathroom including shower • Gas-fired central heating • Double glazed windows • Double width garage plus forecourt parking facilities • Attractively landscaped garden with good degree of privacy and south-easterly aspect. (EPC:E)

OFFERS AROUND £249,950

FINCHFIELD

• Outstanding traditional-style semi of attractively imposing appearance, situated particularly conveniently within short walk of the shopping precinct • Extended accommodation of generously proportioned layout, presented and appointed to impressive standard • Bay-fronted Sitting / Dining Room • 22ft Lounge with marble fireplace • Superb Breakfast Kitchen (approx. 16' x 13') with extensive range of fittings and appliances • Utility / Store (16' x 6') • Three good-size Bedrooms • Study / Nursery Bedroom • Spacious Bathroom featuring both bath and separate shower cubicle • Gas-fired central heating • Double glazed windows • Driveway parking facilities • 90ft south-facing rear garden including large timber-decked patio area (EPC:D).

OFFERS AROUND £239.950

PERTON

• Very attractive cottage-style detached residence in select small cul-de-sac in particularly popular position on the very edge of the development • Neatly presented accommodation of surprisingly spacious layout and well appointed specification • Fitted Cloakroom off Hall • Bay-fronted Lounge with marble fireplace • Generously proportioned Dining Room • Large Breakfast Kitchen with stylish fittings and integrated oven / hob / hood • Master Bedroom with Shower Room en-suite • Three further Bedrooms (two with fitted wardrobes) • House Bathroom • Gas-fired central heating • Double glazed windows • Garage and driveway parking • Nicely landscaped 50ft rear garden. (EPC:D)

OFFERS AROUND £229,950

BREWOOD

• Distinctive double-fronted terraced cottage of dignified Grade II Listed status, enjoying lovely setting within the picturesque "Olde Worlde" centre of prestigious village neighbourhood with excellent amenities immediately to hand • Quaint accommodation of interesting individual character, offering scope for some updating and upgrading to realise full potential • 17ft Lounge with inglenook-style fireplace • Separate Sitting Room / Study • Spacious Dining Kitchen (approx. 150 sq.ft) • Three Bedrooms • Smart white contemporary-style Bathroom • Gas-fired central heating • Courtyard patio garden • Off-road parking facility. (EPC:D)

OFFERS AROUND £227,950

WOMBOURNE

DEEPDALES • Stylishly presented 3 Bed Detached with Conservatory superbly situated in favoured position on Poolhouse Farm estate convenient for local schools and excellent village facilities • Roomy interior fitted to superb standard • Hall • Elegant Lounge and Dining Area leading through to uPVC double glazed Conservatory • Kitchen • 3 Bedrooms, two with wardrobes • Luxuriously refitted Bathroom with shower • 31ft long Garage with subdivided Utility Area • Gas CH and uPVC double glazing • Lovely private rear garden • Viewing highly recommended • EPC: D

OFFERS AROUND £219,950

FINCHFIELD

• Elegant link-detached residence in small cul-de-sac within much favoured locality with excellent amenities close by at both the Finchfield and Compton precincts. Modified and enlarged layout provides individually styled accommodation of considerable appeal • Fitted Cloakroom off Hall • Large L-shaped Living Room with defined Sitting and Dining Areas and superb feature fireplace • Stylish Conservatory • Attractively appointed Kitchen • Master Bedroom with copious fitted wardrobes etc and spacious Shower Room en-suite • Two further Bedrooms • Fully tiled principal Bathroom • Gas-fired central heating • Double glazed windows • 34ft Garage plus block-paved forecourt parking facilities • Neatly landscaped gardens. (EPC:D)

OFFERS AROUND £219,950

PENN

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THE PINNACLE

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- Entrance
- FULLY FURNISHED
- SORRY NO DHSS

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WILLENHALL
THE PINNACLE

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WEDNESFIELD
COPPICE CLOSE

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- Fitted Kitchen
- Popular Location
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WILLENHALL - TEMPLE RD

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Rent £625.00 p.c.m

PENN COMMON

A delightful traditional 3 bed semi in a quiet backroad forming part of a highly desirable location overlooking Penn Common. Refurbished to a nice standard throughout, rent includes window cleaner, Available mid April unfurnished. epc D

Rent £675.00 P.C.M

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C-Class is now making its mark

By Andy Enright

The Mercedes C-Class has grown up a little, and in doing so has become a force to be reckoned with.

The latest Mercedes-Benz C-Class range offers more space, an interior that's leagues ahead of its predecessor, the option of air suspension and some very slick infotainment and technological features.

The C-Class ought to have been all that the company knows about luxury saloons distilled into a smaller form, but for many years it was instead a car that was short on quality and long on price tag.

The 2007 model repaired much of its reputation and the subsequent 2011 facelift brought even more features and better efficiency, but in this country, the C-Class always lagged a distant third in the compact executive sales charts behind the BMW 3 Series and the Audi A4.

Much has changed in the interim though. The introduction of a smaller four-door saloon, the CLA, has allowed the C-Class to become a bit bigger and a good deal more luxurious. The latest car is a fresh design from the ground up and it shows.

Although there will doubtless be a turbocharged AMG tarmac-tearer in the works, the C-Class has for some time been, and will continue to be, focused on comfort and refinement.

'It's clear this is where a good deal of the development budget has been spent'

It's clear this is where a good deal of the development budget has been spent in differentiating this generation car from the BMW 3 Series, the Audi A4 and the much-improved Lexus IS.

To that end, it's the first car in its class to offer air suspension. This comes with an Agility Select switch which allows the driver to select between Comfort, ECO, Sport, Sport+ and Individual settings.

The diesel engines include a 2.1-litre C220 BlueTEC unit good for 170PS, plus you can talk to your dealer about feebler C200 BlueTEC and pokier C250 BlueTEC offerings. Petrol-wise, there's a 184PS C200 unit. Granted, it's not a very wide range of engines to duke it out with BMW and Audi but expect more exciting options to arrive in due course.

The C300 BlueTEC Hybrid combines a four-cylinder 204PS diesel engine with a compact 27PS electric motor and looks interesting, as does the prospect of a plug-in hybrid model. In the here and now, there's a choice of two six-speed manual transmissions or an improved version of the 7G-Tronic automatic gearbox. The electromechanical Direct Steer system is also fitted as standard.

Looking at the exterior of this C-Class, you'd be forgiven for thinking that this was the most conservative of styling directions. Any notionally car-literate person would be able to tell you it was a Mercedes C-Class, even if they'd never clapped eyes on the thing before. It's tidily executed, with hints of the latest S-Class in its detailing.

Drop inside and you'll see where this Mercedes differentiates itself. It's radically different to its predecessor with a broad centre console swooping between the front occupants.

Prices for the C200 petrol start at around £27,000, while for a C200 BlueTEC diesel, you'll pay from around £29,500. There are three trim levels, SE, Sport and AMG Line.

Expect to find pricing very slightly above obvious rivals but the downsized engines balance that out to some extent. One thing's for sure. Mercedes hasn't done things by halves here. This C-Class is one to watch.

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Kia models get a boost with option of a high-spec VR7 edition

Kia's new VR7 special edition range is available on its Picanto, Rio and cee'd models. Offering a high level of standard specification across all models, the VR7 range is also available with discounts of up to £1,000, low rate 4.9 per cent APR finance deals and the option of a Care-3 all-inclusive servicing package for just £99.

The Kia Care-3 all-inclusive servicing package provides retail customers inflation-proof servicing costs for the first three services and is available for just £99 on the VR7 range. Care-3 is also fully transferable to subsequent owners.

All VR7 models share the same key specification. This includes interior extras such as air conditioning, leather trimmed steering wheel and gearshift, Bluetooth Connectivity and USB & AUX ports.

A selection of exterior features such as alloy wheels, reversing sensors, electrically-adjustable heated door mirrors and electric front and rear (where applicable) windows are also included.

Not only does the range offer excellent value, it is available with finance at a great rate of 4.9 per cent.

A £1,000 Kia access deposit contribution is also available on the pro_cee'd, cee'd five-door and cee'd Sportswagon versions.

Host

The Picanto three-door VR7 1.0 68bhp and Picanto five-door VR7 1.0 84bhp both come with all the ranges standard features. Both Picanto models also come with a host of other safety features such as ABS with Electronic Brakeforce Distribution (ESB), Brake-Assist System (BAS), Electronic Stability Control (ESC), Vehicle Stability Management (VSM), six airbags and Hill-start Assist control (HAC).

The Picanto range also includes a selection of exterior extras such as silver-finished interior door handles, chrome exterior door handles, premium black upholstery and a black radiator grille. With an offer price for the three-door Picanto of £8,795 and five-door Picanto at £8,995, both models in the VR7 range give customer savings of £750.

The VR7 Rio range includes models of Rio three-door and five-door 1.25 84bhp and Rio five-door 1.1 CRDi 74bhp, all with savings of £1000. All the Rio models include the standard added features along with exterior extras such as body-colour bumpers, exterior door handles and door mirrors. The Rio VR7 range also has the safety features of ESC, VSM, HAC and anti-theft alarm system.

Alloy

The VR7 range is available on the pro_cee'd 1.4 98bhp, cee'd 5 1.4 98bhp and 1.4 CRDi 89bhp and the cee'd Sportswagon 1.4 98bhp. The pro_cee'd VR7 1.4 98bhp, starting at £13,495, comes with all of the standard VR7 packages as well as the following exterior extras of 16in alloy wheels, black 'abstract' cloth, steering wheel-mounted controls and a rear spoiler – all with a customer saving of £1,000.

The cee'd fivedoor and cee'd Sportswagon models also come with a fantastic trim level. This gives customers the exterior extras of a rear spoiler, projection headlights, front fog lights and daytime running lights. The safety features which are added on top of the range's standard extras include Emergency Stop Signalling, ESC, VSM, ABS (Anti Brake System) and finally HAC.

The cee'd Sportswagon VR7 1.4 98bhp also comes with a luggage under-floor box and side tray, luggage 12V power outlet and roof rails.

The VR7 range is available in four colours, white, black, silver and red. All models benefit from our pioneering seven year/100,000 mile manufacturer warranty.

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Drivetime

Worldwide top seller is the Corolla from Toyota

The Toyota Corolla claimed the world's best seller status in 2013, with internal data confirming 1.22 million recorded sales.

It's evidence of the enduring popularity of a nameplate which has been going strong since 1966, amassing a record 40.72 million cumulative sales by the end of February this year.

Of course it's not just a single car that's achieved this feat, but a model range which has regularly changed with the times to give customers exactly what they want, right at the heart of the market.

The appeal of the latest generation Corolla is proving particularly strong, helping it post a five per cent year-on-year increase in sales across 150 countries and regions worldwide.

Even though the Corolla name has not been part of Toyota's UK line-up since 2007, more than half a million were sold here from the mid-1960s and almost 200,000 are still on the road today.

The 2013 figures have been calculated by Toyota Motor Sales in the USA using independent Polk new vehicle registration data from IHS Automotive, which captures 96 per cent of global new vehicle volumes, confirming Corolla is the world's best-selling vehicle model for 2013 with global registrations of 1,098,524 units.

This figure includes Corolla saloon and other variations bearing the Corolla name, such as Corolla Axio, Corolla Altis and Corolla EX trim levels of the Corolla saloon sold in Japan and other world markets. The Corolla-badged Fielder and Rumion hatchbacks are also included.

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185/65R15	88H	£37.00	£50.00	£65.00	£65.00	£70.00
195/65R15	91H	£39.00	£50.00	£55.00	£55.00	£55.00
195/60R15	88H	£39.00	£45.00	£58.00	£58.00	£56.00
205/55R16	91V	£43.00	£60.00	£70.00	£65.00	£65.00
225/45R17	94W	£49.00	£60.00	£95.00	£95.00	£95.00
225/40R18	92W	£60.00	£65.00	£105.00	£105.00	£105.00
235/40R18	95Y	£65.00	£75.00	£140.00	£125.00	£130.00
235/35R19	91Y	£75.00	£85.00	£165.00	£160.00	£190.00

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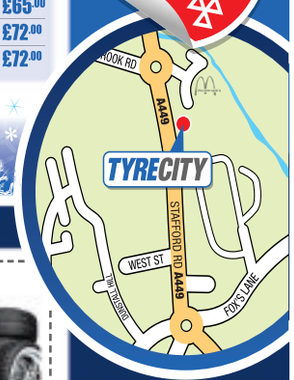

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Style and practicality at heart of new Vivaro

By David Banner

The new Vauxhall Vivaro combines the functionality of a light commercial vehicle with the comfort and design of a passenger car.

Coming to market this summer, the second generation of Vauxhall's best-seller brings the award-winning 'sculptural artistry meets technical precision' design philosophy to the light commercial vehicle segment for the first time.

Complementing its new, eye-catching looks are state-of-the-art technologies and many practical, innovative features in the cabin, making the Vivaro an extremely attractive competitor in this key vehicle class. With approximately 50,000 vehicles sold annually, it accounts for over 10 percent of its segment on the European market.

"The second generation Vauxhall Vivaro distinguishes itself with its superb practicality and quality. After 13 successful years on the market, we wanted to make the all-new Vivaro's packaging even more attractive while raising the standard of its core capabilities," said Mark Adams, Vauxhall/Opel's vice-president, design, describing the design team's task.

The new Vauxhall Vivaro's exterior is now even more elegant and modern. With a large, prominent grille, distinctive headlamps and the flowing blade side feature from Vauxhall's multi-award-winning design language, it includes the characteristic forms of the brand's passenger car models.

The headlamps are executed in high-gloss black mouldings with embedded chrome accents which enhance their jewel-like effect. The daytime running lights come with signature Vauxhall wing graphic design and are available with modern, crisp LED technology, giving the Vivaro an unmistakable look.

In all its elegance, with its wide face and clean, practical rear, the Vivaro clearly communicates the robustness which customers demand from the van during its everyday use.

Its side design brings sculptural artistry to the van segment, with the signature Vauxhall blade feature flowing from under the side mirrors back to the rear wheel-arches in the same style as the Insignia family and Astra GTC models.

Depending on how the new Vivaro is to be used – as a robust workhorse, a sophisticated company vehicle or a comfortable large-capacity passenger carrier – customers can choose between two body trim specifications. The core variant is particularly robust and rugged: many body components, such as the front bumper, grille, side mirror housings and the vertical rear mouldings are in a durable, black textured plastic material. And for the Sportive, all body elements gleam in the same colour and the grille shines in chrome.

The new Vivaro colour palette comprises 11 standard colours – two more than its predecessor – with five solid and six two-coat metallic finishes.

Modern

While the exterior, in all its elegance, clearly communicates the new Vivaro's robustness, its interior is designed to provide a modern, mobile workspace. The driver can choose comfort seats with lumbar support which are adjustable in length and height. All important functions in the cockpit are now positioned in line of sight and within optimal reach, ensuring ideal ergonomics. Their location played a central role in the design and layout of the driver and front passenger cabin area.

The steering wheel, with remote controls, is positioned at a more upright angle for improved driver comfort and the steering column is adjustable for both rake and reach. The new instrument panel now has an oval, digital speed readout in the centre, flanked by the rev counter and fuel gauge in classic round forms.

The new Vivaro is not only a comfortable load carrier, it is also a mobile office, which is particularly important for a vehicle in this class.

The driver can install a notebook to his/her right and take care of desk work between journeys or set up the next customer appointment via email. Because, thanks to a sophisticated folding mechanism, the centre front seat can be quickly and easily transformed into a 'desk' with space for a laptop, turning the Vivaro's cab into a mobile, connected office.

Optimum on-board connectivity is becoming increasingly important, especially for commercial vehicles as they are often required to function as mobile office and business hubs.

To meet such needs, the new Vivaro offers a selection of different infotainment systems which can be optionally operated via steering wheel remote controls. These include the NAVI 50 system, with a seven-inch, intuitively-operated colour touchscreen giving the driver access to all important functions, such as radio, telephone and, of course, the navigation system including maps for 30 European countries.

It has a CD player, AM/FM radio, a double-tuner, AUX/USB ports and is MP3/WMA compatible. Bluetooth telephone connectivity and audio streaming are also provided, and maps can simply be updated by USB download.

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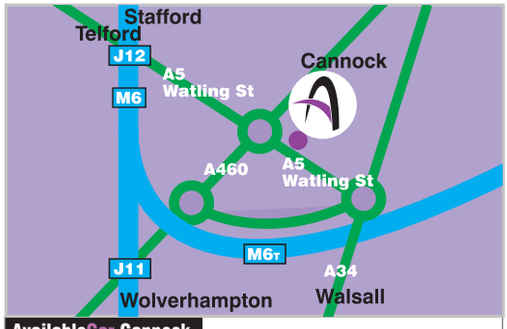

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ADAM a new take on sector

Commercial feature

The ADAM is Vauxhall's refreshingly different take on the small-car sector.

It doesn't replace the brand's conventional citycar and supermini offerings but it does offer a more stylish option for buyers bored by the sight of BMW's reinvented MINI on every drive and unmoved by Fiat's funky 500. Here's a fashionable alternative with an encyclopaedic list of options.

The ADAM is available in three trim levels – Jam, Glam and Slam. Here, we focus on the ADAM Jam, which offers a fresh and bold modern look. It comes in two-tone design style both inside and out, and an expressive palette of colours are available which will grab and keep people's attention.

No fewer than 12 body colours means you can create a cool two-tone look with three optional roof packs.

Inside, you also have a choice of colour schemes and both are eyecatching. Vauxhall has thought of everything as far as style goes as even your ADAM's key matches your exterior choice.

The ADAM Jam Extreme takes you to the next level. Here you're provided with a coloured roof, front logo bar and stunning 17in Hurricane alloy wheels.

There's a vast amount of choice with ADAM Jam trim with prices starting from £11,805.

There's a lot of promise about the Vauxhall Mokka too. It looks good, it's well equipped and it offers buyers a number of well-thought-out options. The design is handsome, and it looks to be one of those car shapes which will age very well while more radical competitors date rapidly.

Top-of-the-range Exclusiv trim level brings even more colour, style and luxury to the Mokka, which has clearly been designed for the urban environment, but that's not to say the ability to be driven off-road has been totally neglected. To this end, Vauxhall wisely offers both front and four-wheel drive chassis options, with the all-wheel drive mechanicals being fully adaptive.

'The design is handsome, and it looks to be one of those car shapes which will age very well while more radical competitors date rapidly.'

Exclusiv specification includes a multitude of standard features. Air conditioning and dual-zone climate control, DMB digital radio with CD/MP3 with aux-in socket and USB connection and iPod control along with Bluetooth functionality are all included within the Exclusiv package.

In addition to all this, you'll find the Mokka Exclusiv with steering wheel-mounted audio controls, cruise control, silver-effect roof rails, rain-sensitive windscreen wipers, electrically-adjustable heated door mirrors, front and rear electric windows, front fog lights, front and rear parking sensors, a leather covered steering wheel, stainless steel exhaust tailpipe and highly attractive sterling silver-effect 18in alloy wheels.

That's a pretty comprehensive tally and the list of standard safety features is just as generous with traction control, decent control system, switchable electronic stability programme, hill start assist, anti-lock braking system and a full complement of airbags to protect all the Mokka's occupantsy.

Prices for the Mokka Exclusiv start at £18,064.

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 18.0 (15.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO_2 emissions: 373 - 88g/km.#

Personal contract hire offer on Mokka Exclusiv 1.6 in Orange Rock and Adam JAM 1.2i 16v VVT in brilliant white on orders received between 2 April and 1 July 2014, subject to availability and status. Age 18+ only. Figures for Mokka based on a non-maintenance contract hire package with advance rental of £3,383, then 35 monthly rentals of £199. Excess annual miles over 10,000 charged at 11.08ppm. Figures for Adam based on a non-maintenance contract hire package with advance rental of £1,980, then 23 monthly rentals of £99. Excess annual miles over 8,000 charged at 7.14ppm. Excess charges also apply if you breach manufacturer servicing or maintenance guidelines or if the car exceeds BVRLA Fair Wear & Tear guidelines for its age/mileage when it is returned to Vauxhall Leasing. Package includes Road Fund Licence and Vauxhall Assistance. Guarantee/indemnity may be required. Prices and details are subject to change without notice. For full specification and T&Cs contact your local Retailer. ALD Automotive Ltd., trading as Vauxhall Leasing, Oakwood Park, Lodge Causeway, Fishponds, Bristol BS16 3JA. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. #Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors.

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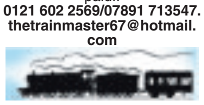

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JOSEPH MALCOLM HADFIELD (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 36 Cedar Drive East Finchley London N2 0PS and 121 The Lindens Wolverhampton WV6 0LS, who died on 30/07/2013, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 27/06/2014, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
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ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
(AS AMENDED)

ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991
PUBLIC BRIDLEWAY NO. 22 TRYSULL & SEISDEN PARISH
TEMPORARY CLOSURE EXTENSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order made on 22 October 2013 by Staffordshire County Council, the effect of which was to prohibit any pedestrians, cyclists and horseriders from proceeding along the full length of Public Bridleway No. 22 Trysull and Seisden Parrish which runs from its junction with Fox Road in a generally westerly direction for a distance of approximately 1,097 metres to its junction with Public Bridleway No. 23 Trysull & Seisden Parish, has been extended for a further six months by the Secretary of State until 24 October 2014.

The closure is required because the surface of the path has been compromised by animal activity.

An alternative route is available to the west of the bridleway.

A plan will be displayed showing the length of public footpath to be closed and unaffected rights of way in the area.

THIS ORDER WILL COME INTO OPERATION ON 24 APRIL 2014 AND WILL REMAIN IN FORCE FOR A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS OR UNTIL THE RISK OF DANGER TO THE PUBLIC IS CONSIDERED TO BE OVER, WHICHEVER IS THE EARLIER. IF NECESSARY, AFTER SIX MONTHS, THE ORDER MAY BE EXTENDED FOR A FURTHER PERIOD WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

John Tradewell, Director of Law & Governance
2 Staffordshire Place, Stafford. ST16 2LH

Ref: HG428F; Enquiries: Mr Paul Rochfort; Tel: 0300 111 8000

Date: 24 April 2014

HIGHWAYS AGENCY

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984-SECTION 14(1)(A)
THE M54 MOTORWAY (JUNCTIONS 3 TO 4, SHROPSHIRE)
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTION AND PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
ORDER 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Secretary of State for Transport has made an Order on the M54 Motorway in the County of Shropshire, to allow resurfacing works to be carried out.

The effect of the Order will be to -
1) impose a 50 miles per hour speed restriction on the westbound carriageway of the M54 from the centreline of the B4379 Newport Road underbridge, to the centreline of the western overbridge at M54 Junction 4;
2) close the –
   (a) westbound carriageway of the M54 from its junction with the exit slip road at Junction 3, to its junction with the entry slip road at Junction 4;
   (b) slip roads leading –
      i. to the westbound carriageway of the M54 at Junction 3; and
      ii. from the westbound carriageway of the M54 at Junction 4.

Work will be carried out over two nights between 20:00 hours and 07:00 hours and is expected to start on Friday 2 May 2014. The speed restriction will be in operation from 00:01 hours on 2 May and continue for 24 hours during the works period. The Order will come into force on Friday 25 April 2014.

Vehicles being used for special forces purposes will be exempt from the speed restriction. Vehicles being used for police, fire service and ambulance purposes will be exempt from the speed restriction and closures and vehicles being used in connection with the works or by a traffic officer in uniform will be exempt from the closures. A diversion route via the A41, A5 and A4640 will be signed.

For further information, please contact Richard Gulliver on 0121 678 8339.

Paul Siddall, a Higher Executive Officer in the Highways Agency.

WINIFRED ETHEL SHERWOOD
Deceased
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of Anville Court Nursing Home, 188 Goldthorn Hill, Penn, Wolverhampton, who died on 25/03/2013, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undermentioned on or before 26/06/2014, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
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10 Personals

personal

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Jackett in no hurry to revamp his squad

WOLVES boss Kenny Jackett says there was no rush to sign new players as he denied interest in Coventry hot-shot Callum Wilson.

With promotion secured nine days ago, focus has turned to next season and how the head coach is going to strengthen his squad.

But while he will add new faces, Jackett believes the key time to assess his squad is 10 games into next season when he can make any adjustments.

"If we can sign people early, we will, but it will be a constant process," said Jackett.

"The summer is an opportunity but I also think there is a key time eight to 10 games in and then the Christmas period.

"You've had a small period to look at how you are at that level and that's a very important period."

Wilson, 22, has hit 22 goals in 38 games for the Sky Blues and was linked with a £3m move to Wolves across social media on Friday.

It's understood he was targeted in January before his strike partner Leon Clarke returned .

But Jackett said: "We've had no contact or bid at all. It's not something we're considering."

Wednesfield riders claim the draw

Cycle Speedway

WEDNESFIELD cycle speedway team claimed a draw at home against Birmingham as the meeting went down to a final heat decider at Ashmore Park.

Birmingham travelled the short distance to the Aces on the back of two wins in the league. The Monarchs had just one change to the side that won against Coventry as Ewan Hancox came in for Bob Prince.

Wednesfield had the tough spearhead of Ex-Monarch Paul Heard as well as Ben Mould and Chris Jewkes.

Heat one saw Birmingham take a 6-4 advantage with Mark Winwood taking the win but it was short lived as the Aces claimed a 7-3 with Johnson and Heard getting the better of Carl Winwood and Scott Millward. Heat three saw Chris Jewkes get his marching orders for moving at the tapes as Birmingham made a 7-2 in the restart with Andy James rolling back the years with a win with Chris Timms behind.

Heat four saw Welsh International Mark Winwood get his second win of the afternoon as he looked sharp on the track beating fellow Welsh rider Ben Mould with Hodgkinson beating Alex Aris to make the scores 22-17. Heat five was awarded as Phil Hemming took a tumble on the fourth bend though the Monarchs could of felt James should of got second as he tangled with the former Sandwell rider as he had nowhere to go.

Heats six to eight saw shared heats as Millward, Mould and Heard all won. Heat nine before the interval saw a tussle on the fourth bend between Aris and Hodgkinson with the Monarch rider going down. The referee called a halt and excluded the Smethwick-based racer for the cause of the stoppage. The rerun saw Aris and Jewkes make it a 7-2 to put the half time scores Birmingham 45 Wednesfield 42.

Heat ten saw Andy James claim his second win. Heat sixteen saw Millward excluded and though Mark Winwood made it a hat-trick the Aces filled in the places behind to get a point advantage to make it 76-80. Heat seventeen saw share of the points which then made sure Birmingham would not lose the meeting. Heat eighteen saw the Monarchs take points back to Perry Barr.

Club in stylish campaign opener

Tales From The Bratch

BEACON opened their Staff Clubs Premier Division campaign in style with a resounding victory at Coseley.

Skipper Roger Fildes led the way with the bat as Beacon posted 212-8 from their 50 overs.

Fildes top scored with 45 and was given solid backing from Michael Brookes (35), Matt Tonks (43) and Ollie Green (27no).

Matthew Briggs then sent Premier Division new-boys Coseley spinning to defeat, bagging 5-28 as the hosts were shot out for 78. James Fildes was also among the wickets with 3-23.

Beacon's second team also eased to a comfortable victory at home to Wolverhampton IV. Stand-in skipper Anoop Shukla impressed with the ball, claiming 4-17 as the visitors were out for 105. Steve Shettlewood and Callum Gutteridge bagged two wickets each.

An unbroken second-wicket century stand between Michael Hartwell (55no) and Edward Steventon (37no) saw Beacon home inside 16 overs.

The third XI completed an opening day hat-trick of wins for the club with a nine-wicket success against Hawkins IV.

Wolves Women four-ce their way back to win

Wolves Women 4 Blackburn Rovers Ladies 2

WOLVES Women came from two goals down to win a weather-dictated game away at Blackburn Rovers.

Football

The wind was firmly against Wolves in the first half, seeing them struggle to settle into a rhythm and create chances against a Blackburn side who started strong, knowing a win was vital for their survival chances.

A spell of early pressure saw Blackburn earn a penalty, Nic Forster making no mistake to fire past Natalie Hall and into the net as the home side capitalised on their early dominance.

Wolves were unable to quickly respond and things got worse after half an hour, with Becky Hall forced off with a knee injury.

Blackburn were able to double their lead on the stroke of half time, as Steffi Hardy was free to head in at the near post as Wolves failed to mark up at a corner.

The second half saw Wolves improve and take the game to Blackburn. With the wind now behind them, Wolves were able to quickly grab a goal back, as Dom Luke rifled in an effort from the edge of the box.

There was a change in momentum, and Wolves pushed on to level the game after the hour mark, as Laura McQuilkin's deep cross flew into the top corner of the net.

Dani Selmes quickly added a third goal as Wolves took the lead with a looping effort beyond the Rovers' keeper, as all of a sudden there was only one team likely to go on and win.

With less than 15 minutes to go, Leila Hopkins scored her first goal for Wolves with a shot from the edge of the box to seal a vital win, as Wolves rose out of the relegation zone.

Wolves were deserved winners, defending better when they were against the wind, and creating more chances when they had the wind behind them.

Back-to-back wins see them rise to eighth in the table, knowing a win in their next game at home to Newcastle will see them safe.

Manager Trevor Mullins was aware of the importance of the result: "This was definitely a game of two halves.

"We battled well against a determined Blackburn side and the conditions, but unfortunately conceded two goals in the first half. In the second, we came out and showed great endeavour, pressing at a high tempo, and we deserved the win."

Wolves: N. Hall, Large, Widdal, Palin, Rimmer, Luke, Hopkins, McQuilkin, Timmins-Ray (Price), B. Hall (Williams), Selmes

Unused Subs: Tranter, Pervaz

Let's go for the record now, says boss Jackett

The joy is etched on the face of captain Sam Ricketts after the Wolves defender led his side to victory at Orient

JUBILANT Kenny Jackett wants his Wolves champions to smash the points record after scooping the League One crown.

Wolves clinched the 10th title in their history when Brentford could only draw 2-2 at MK Dons on Monday afternoon after Jackett's side had won 3-1 at Leyton Orient earlier in the day.

Their 30th victory of the season put them on 99 points, two short of the third-tier record held by Charlton in 2011-12 with two games left.

Although they play Coventry away on Saturday, Wolves are likely to receive the trophy on the final day of the season, Saturday, May 3, against Carlisle, in front of another bumper crowd at Molineux.

Head coach Jackett is allowing his players two days off but not before urging them to end a record-breaking campaign with a flourish by gaining another milestone. "The record is 101 points and we need three more points from two games to get to that," said Jackett. "We'll be going for it because it would be fantastic."

Jackett said he wouldn't celebrate until the title was won but will allow himself to reflect on the achievement now they are going to lift the trophy.

"Yes, I can celebrate," he said.

"We've achieved promotion and we've won the title."

Thorne is hinting at Rams stay

ALBION midfielder George Thorne has hinted he could stay at Derby next season if he helps the Rams reach the Premier League.

Thorne scored his first Derby goal to cap a man-of-the-match display in Friday's 2-0 win at Doncaster.

And the 21-year-old has hinted he could be tempted into an extended loan or permanent switch to the Rams if they reach the top flight.

Steve McClaren's men look on course for the Championship play-offs and Thorne said: "I've always said I want to be playing in the Premier League next season but it could be with Derby. I want to get promoted with Derby and then sit down and review things.

Rangers run over Sporting

Black Country Rangers 4 Sporting Khalsa 1

WITH Khalsa's fourth game in seven days plus injuries and suspensions this was always going to be a tough game.

Both teams cancelled each other out in the early stages. Khalsa took the lead through Sam Pearson in the 25th minute. But bad defending and tired legs resulted in Khalsa conceding three late goals in the first half.

The second half saw Khalsa take the game to the hosts but some excellent saves by the Rangers' keeper denied Khalsa. Khalsa were reduced to 10 men when Reece Cotterill was sent off. A late penalty securedvictory for Rangers.

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Wulfs rampant as they hit a high five

Coleshill Town 1 AFC Wulfrunians 5

Football

A rampant performance from AFC Wulfrunians saw them power to victory against Coleshill Town.

Craig Gregg grabbed a brace and there were also goals for Jacob Craner, Mike Robertson and Jake Sedgemore. Connor Leek provided the consolation goal for the hosts.

Wulfs were quick out of the blocks and had some excellent early chances. Gregg and Craner linked up well, with the latter having his shot saved by Paul Hathaway and Scott Stevenson's chipped effort from the rebound grazed the outside of the post.

The early pressure led to Wulfs taking the lead after nine minutes. Craig Gregg was bundled over in the area, allowing Sedgemore to calmly send Hathaway the wrong way from the spot.

As the game settled, Coleshill had a pair of chances to level the score. Ryan Nash saw his curling free kick held by Danny Tipton, with Danny Tymon poking wide from the edge of the area two minutes later.

The hosts were made to pay for not taking their chances as Craner doubled his sides lead after 30 minutes. There was some fantastic build up play before a quick one-two between Gregg and Craner, with Craner dribbling across goal and wrong footing the 'keeper with a neat finish.

Robertson added a third for Wulfs one minute before the break. Gregg's cross was deflected to him and he controlled it before firing it into the corner.

Coleshill responded better in the second half and pulled a goal back after 51 minutes. Matt Brown broke clear of the defence, but Tipton did well to push his shot away, only for Leek to pounce on the rebound and place it in.

A Tipton assist led to Gregg adding his first of the game. He chased down the keeper's long kick and left Hathaway with no chance.

Gregg added his second to complete the rout for Wulfs with six minutes to go.

He showed great control to bring the ball down before brushing off a defender as he turned to fire it into the corner.

Wulfrunians now move onto their final home game of the season against Gornal Athletic on Monday.

Casuals close the gap on leaders

Wellington 1
W-ton Casuals 3

WOLVERHAMPTON Casuals took full advantage of the West Midlands League Premier Division leaders Lye Town's defeat at Bewdley to close the gap to one point and also have a game in hand.

The visitors took a long time last Tuesday to get into their stride but forged ahead just before half time as JJ Melligan crossed for Chris Henry to head home from six yards.

From the restart in the second half Casuals went 2-0 up. Avun Jephcott put youngster James Tindall away to beat a defender to cross to the far post for Craig Bannister to head past Wellington keeper Matt Eden.

Wellington were reduced to 10 men in the 64th minute Nick Williams shown a straight red card for a nasty foul on Melligan.

Casuals added to the home side's misery with a third goal in the 75th minute. Melligan played a short corner to Jephcott and his deep cross was headed back across goal by Henry, leaving Nathan Jackson a simple tap-in from six yards.

Ben Fisher grabbed a consolation goal for the home side.

Molineux boils over with a 10-goal thriller

Wolves 6 Rotherham 4

Football

NOT even three pitch invasions, the threat of an abandonment from the officials and the prospect of an FA carpeting for the club could lessen the sheer joy and excitement prompted by the game of the season for Wolves fans.

A strange, sometimes breathtaking, sometimes bemusing, runaway train of a game it was too, featuring two hat-tricks and five goals in the last 10 minutes.

The entertainment was as plentiful as the goals supply and fully indebted, it must be said, to the challenge presented by a splendid Rotherham outfit who would not lie down.

Nouha Dicko scored his first hat-trick for Wolves, a feat mirrored by Rotherham's Kieran Agard as the two teams took the tally of goals from their two games to 16.

Amid this extraordinary flurry of goals, it was the first of the season for Sam Ricketts which deserved top billing and, restoring his team's lead at 5-4 after Rotherham had clawed back a 4-2 deficit to reach 4-4, triggered the South Bank spill over which took the shine off a memorable day.

The exuberance was understandable but not the repeat performances which came in the moments which followed, prompting the threat from referee Fred Graham to abandon the match should there be a repeat. Rotherham's high-pressing game repeatedly knocked Wolves out of their stride and gave them an uneasy passage to three points which nevertheless move them ever closer to the League One title.

Michael O'Connor somehow snaked through Carl Ikeme's congested six-yard line. By half-timethe game seemed won at 3-1. Rotherham's lead only lasted six minutes before Edwards and Bakary Sako combined to bring Dicko his first, a sliding finish to the Frenchman's cross.

Two more in three minutes followed. A sweeping Jacobs pass found Ricketts who picked out a strangely-unmarked Dicko for the second before Wolves' other consistently excellent full-back Scott Golbourne became provider for Edwards and an equally simple third. However, Rotherham had Wolves repeatedly back-pedalling into their final third and thoroughly deserved a second goal.

Molineux thought the game was up in the 80th minute when Edwards calmly picked out Dicko for the hat-trick. But four more goals were to come.

Kevin McDonald celebrates scoring the sixth goal during the epic match at Molineux against Rotherham

Disaster start is turned around

Wednesfield 3
Ellesmere Rangers 3

WEDNESFIELD made a disastrous start by conceding three goals in the opening 14 minutes.

But an amazing second half fight back led by skipper Danny Carter earned them a well-deserved West Midlands League Premier Division point.

Rangers first goal came in the second minute skipper Marco Adaggio firing down the middle from the penalty spot after Bobby Glencorse had fouled George Durrell.

Five minutes later the Shropshire side went into a 2-0 lead. Adaggio missed a Mick O'Reilly low cross in front of goal but Dave Howarth at the far post put the finishing touch.

Buoyant Rangers added a third in the 14th minute Carter misjudged a long ball from Josh Parkes for Adaggio to go on to loft the ball over Wednesfield keeper Sam Arnold.

The turning point of the game came in the 65th minute Carter's back-header from a Josh Jones cross going in off the far post.

On 73 minutes the hosts made it 3-2. Carter headed a Jones free kick towards goal for Wayne Price to bundle the ball in. Seven minutes later Carter equalised.

Pegasus win with a brace

West Midlands Regional League
Pegasus Juniors 2
Sporting Khalsa 0

AFTER an even contest in the first half with the best chance of the half falling to the home side forward Cory Hyde whose strike hit the crossbar.

Despite efforts from both sides the half finished goalless.

Khalsa started the brighter of the two sides after the interval but a red card to Kieron Northwood in the 55th minute reduced Khalsa to 10 men and gave the home side the obvious advantage.

Pegasus secured the victory scoring their goals in the 65th and 73rd minute of the game.

Casuals let lead slip away

Smethwick Rangers 2
W-ton Casuals 2

CASUALS twice held the lead but they dropped two vital West Midland Premier division points in the race for promotion.

Wolves went in front in the 18th minute when the unmarked Angelo Franco at the near post put the finishing touch to an Adrian Jones corner.

Rangers rocked the visitors by equalising in the 60th minute Gurjit Singh latched onto a long clearance to beat Tim Beech.

Casuals hit back to regain the lead in the 75th through Chris Henry from six yards. Casuals lead was short lived though when Singh rifled home a superb 25 yard free kick.

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WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS

Fan-tastic – Wolves players celebrate the third goal in front of the travelling support which, once again this season, was superb

Morgan's joy with Jackett's heroes

WOLVES chairman Steve Morgan has paid tribute to boss Kenny Jackett for using so much home-grown talent in the club's record-breaking promotion.

Thirteen out of the 29 players used by head coach Jackett this season have either come through the Wolves academy or the development squad.

Home-grown Danny Batth is their only player, who has come through the Wolves' system, to play in every game this season. Jackett has won a return to the Championship in his first season and achieved five club records.

Batth, Jake Cassidy, David Davis, Leon Clarke, Matt Doherty, Ethan Ebanks-Landell, Lee Evans, Anthony Forde, Carl Ikeme, Zeli Ismail, Liam McAlinden, Aaron McCarey and Jack Price are the academy or development squad graduates who have been involved this season. And Morgan, who has now seen two promotions in his seven years of ownership, is thrilled that this one has been achieved with so much talent developed by the club.

"I'm absolutely delighted to be able to celebrate a record-breaking season," said Morgan. "It's extra pleasing for me because Kenny has given an opportunity to our younger players."

Ikeme enjoys the honours

BATTERED Carl Ikeme says Wolves' latest title win feels better than 2009. The outstanding Molineux keeper is nursing a swollen nose courtesy of an accidental boot from Danny Batth in Monday's 3-1 win at Leyton Orient that helped clinch the League One crown. And he says he feels more part of this promotion.

Back in 2008-09, Ikeme played 14 games as Mick McCarthy's side swept to the Championship title. But the 27-year-old has played a much bigger role this time, helping to keep a club record 24 clean sheets.

"This one is better for me because I've been more heavily involved," said Ikeme. "I didn't play as much last time so I didn't feel as bigger part of it . But I also think the fans are possibly enjoying it more – because they've got a team they can relate to."

Leyton Orient 1 Wolves 3

Football

KENNY JACKETT'S side are by some way the best side in League One this season, and, as their points total reflects, one of the most superior teams at this level for some time.

In that dizzying spell of goals and victories, Jackett's boys have hit the net 47 times and conceded just 11.

As overworked keeper Carl Ikeme said after their win over Orient, it's not always been as easy as the league table or those statistics now suggest.

There have been many times when fine marginal decisions have swung games one way or the other.

But at almost every turn since that miserable defeat at Gillingham on January 3, Wolves have found a way to win.

Transformation certainly isn't too strong a word for the changes that have taken place not just this season but even since these sides last met.

Victory

Back in December, Orient were top dogs while Wolves trailed them and Monday's victory meant the distance between them is now 19 points.

Wolves have taken 50 points out of the last 57 available – Orient have taken 26. Such a gulf wasn't visible at the Matchroom Stadium as the Os snapped away at Wolves like terriers in a no-holds-barred encounter, but the visitors showed for the umpteenth time why they are where they are.

Yes, you can argue things went their way – none more so than when Richard Stearman's clear handball in the penalty area was missed by referee Neil Swarbrick after 28 minutes when they were 1-0 ahead. Not for the first time this season did a decision go for them, but full marks to them for making the most of their opportunity. Four minutes later, Bakary Sako struck to make it 2-0 to finally draw level with long-departed Leigh Griffiths at the top of the club scoring charts.

And thereafter there was a certain inevitability about the outcome.

By then Stearman had nodded Wolves in front.

Two goals ahead, you might have been forgiven for thinking Wolves could have eased up a little. But that is not Jackett's way and it certainly wasn't the way the game was going. Perhaps as a gesture to their own admirable but flawed title hopes, Orient were like a dog with a bone and tore at the visitors' defence either side of half-time.

As Orient's pressure reached its zenith on the stroke of half-time, Chris Dagnall's effort was correctly disallowed for offside.

Surprise

And after Ikeme foiled Dagnall and Mooney within the opening minute of the restart, it was little surprise when Cox side-footed home to halve the deficit 60 seconds later after Wolves failed to clear a high ball into the box.

James Henry's 30-yard drive that ripped past Jones in extra time added the gloss. Wolves fans won't care if it was flattering. They are champions and on their way back.

Reds get out of the drop spot

Willenhall Town 2 Shifnal Town 0

THE Lockmen produced a fine performance to beat a poor Shifnal outfit who had the bare 11 players, climbing out of the relegation places in the process.

Willenhall made the best possible start when a ball was played out to Alex Carling on the right and he cut inside before whipping a fine effort past the keeper.

Eddie Wilson also went close from a free-kick before a superb challenge on 17 minutes from Clarke in his own half saw him bounce up and pick out a racing Fuller with a precise 50 -yard pass, Fuller fired first time under the keeper.

Andre Calder and Max Whitehouse both headed over from corners before Booth did well to deny the visitor's Andy Rich.

Carling had two shots saved early on, Wilson again went close for the hosts, before sub Jake Morgan headed at the keeper on 70 minutes after a great run and cross from Joe Noel. Morgan then rounded the keeper before losing control of the ball and his effort as he stumbled rolled inches wide.

Ellie adds gold medal to haul

ELLIE SIMMONDS won 400m freestyle gold to claim her second medal of the British Para-Swimming International meet on the final day in Glasgow.

The Paralympic and world champion lowered her time by more than a second to finish in 5.26.52 and secured her third qualification for the contest.

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